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Daily Report

Central Eurasia

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Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-205 24 October 1994

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Yeltsin Holds News Conference on CIS Summit

LD2110205794 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1840 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] [Correspondent Vladimir Perfilev] The Commonwealth of Independent States [CIS] is to move toward economic integration. Celebrations of the 50th anniversary of victory will be a uniting factor. The idea of a Euro-Asia union is premature. The Russian 14th army will be withdrawn from Moldova in the course of three years. The peacekeeping forces' mandate in Tajikistan has been prolonged. These are just some of the results of the 16th summit of the CIS heads of state, held in Moscow. President Boris Yeltsin, who presided over the summit, and CIS executive secretary Ivan Korotchenya held a news conference.

[Begin recording] [Yeltsin] As chairman of this gathering, on behalf of all the heads of state and the participants I wish to inform you and all citizens of the CIS countries of the main outcome of our work together.

We debated about 10 issues today. We adopted a memorandum on the main trends in the development and integration of the Commonwealth of Independent States. And finally we decided—and how long we moved toward it but somehow could not make up our minds—the specific question of creating an inter-state economic committee, or ISEC [Russian abbreviation MEK]. It will be located in Moscow.

Also, we decided to create a payments union, customs union, and a number of others. And we examined and approved an inter-state program of measures to perpetuate the memory of citizens who perished in the defense of their homeland and the victims of the Great Patriotic War.

In addition, we decided on such issues as guarantees of rights for members of national minorities and a number of others. One can say with confidence that the debate as to whether the CIS needs integration has been finally closed. The CIS will move toward integration, and gradually deepen that integration following the example, say, of the European Union and other such communities.

All agreed that integration is needed, and not in words but in deeds. Life requires it and the peoples of the CIS states demand it.

Questions of the formation of the machinery of the economic union took up a central place at today's debates. We succeeded in taking a decision on the basic machinery capable of effectively tackling the problem in question. This machinery has been enshrined first of all in the decisions on the formation of a free trade zone, a customs union, a payments union, and in the provisions on an interstate economic committee. Thus real possibilities open up before us to enter 1995 and beyond, having liberated our cooperation from artificially created obstacles.

Events connected with the celebration of the 50th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic war should undoubtedly become a uniting factor for the Commonwealth. Serious attention was also devoted to this topic. The heads of state were unanimous that it is not only concerns of the present-day that are important to us but also the memory of the sacred things that united us in the past.

A ruling passed unanimously provides for complete preparations for national festivities to mark the anniversary, publication of memorial books, and also joint media coverage of the anniversary.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr. President. Many earlier doubted and still doubt the viability of the CIS. Does today's summit meeting refute them? That is one question, and if I may put a second question. Will an agreement to withdraw the 14th army from Moldova be signed today?

[Yeltsin] I will answer the second question first. The heads of government of Moldova and the Russian Federation, in the presence of the Russian and Moldovan presidents, today signed an agreement on the gradual withdrawal of troops from Moldova, on their appropriate status and so forth. There were no disagreements between us about the document at all. The withdrawal will take three years.

As to whether today's gathering was necessary, whether it lived up to our hopes. I believe that the issues included into the agenda were wholeheartedly included. Not a single issue was removed during preliminary debate before the expanded debate. Taking into account that we adopted all—12 questions?

[Korotchenya] Ten.

[Yeltsin] Ten plus two protocol issues. So I am satisfied that it lived up to our expectations.

[Correspondent] Boris Nikolayevich, virtually the entire world except the CIS countries was worried about rumors of Chernomyrdin resigning before you refuted them. Did you get the impression that the CIS countries' attitude to events in Russia is cooling down somewhat?

[Yeltsin] No. Quite the opposite. There is a great attraction toward Russia. We have good strong bilateral relations. Also, we are carrying out major peacekeeping missions in various trouble spots. It has to be said that, after all, the bloodshed has ended in Georgia and Abkhazia. Our peacekeeping efforts are working.

Moreover, all the heads of government of CIS countries get on well with Chernomyrdin. So do the heads of state. They respect him. Nobody had any serious doubts and nobody took the media talk about Chernomyrdin's resignation seriously. No, and again, no.

[Correspondent] The Russian government has still not voiced its opinion on [Kazakhstan President] Nazarbayev's idea of a Euro-Asian union. Why is that?

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[Yeltsin] We have listened to Nursultan Abishevich Nazarbayev. Each of us, all the heads of state, received a document from him two months ago ...

[Korotchenya] Three months.

[Yeltsin] Was it three months ago? Three months ago all the heads of state received a document from him. And we studied it very carefully. Nonetheless, we all concluded that the idea may be good but it is premature. It was decided to note the document and to use the fundamental idea contained within it to further deepen integration between the CIS countries.

[Correspondent] Boris Nikolayevich, what was Ukraine's position at today's sitting, and what do you expect from your meeting with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma? Thank you.

[Yeltsin] Well, I can tell you it was an entirely different situation from the previous president. We had virtually no arguments [diskussiya] with Ukraine on any subject.

[Corresondent] Boris Nikolayevich. Collective security issues were supposed to have been discussed today. Were they in fact discussed?

[Yeltsin] They were just adopted. In their entirety.

[Correspondent] Mr. President. You said it was decided today to site the ISEC headquarters in Moscow. Why was that? According to the CIS statutes, the Commonwealth's governing bodies should be in Minsk. Does this signify a gradual return to the idea of restoring the [Soviet] Union? Thank you.

[Yeltsin] Well, I abstained during the vote.

[Korotchenya] But your president supported it, although earlier he held a different opinion.

[Correspondent] How, in your opinion, will the interstate bodies and transnational companies already in existence and operating develop in the future?

[Yeltsin] I consider that the ISEC and the memoranda adopted will impart a great amount of momentum to the creation of various transnational companies, corporations, joint ventures and so on.

[Korotchenya] As part of economic union.

[Yeltsin] As part, of course, of the economic council.

[Korotchenya] Union.

[Yeltsin] Union. [end recording]

More on Yeltsin News Conference

LD2210154694 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0630 GMT 22 Oct 94

[News conference on CIS summit with Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin in Moscow on 21 October—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Yeltsin] I, as chairman of today's meeting of the Council of CIS Heads of State, and Korotchenya, secretary of the Executive Committee, have been given the task of conducting a 30-minute news conference. First of all a short introductory address:

Esteemed representatives of the mass media. First of all, I would like to apologize for our being a little delayed at the meeting, but the latest meeting of the Council of Heads of State has ended its work. The heads of government, foreign ministers, defense ministers and delegations from all the states were also present at it. As chairman of this gathering, on behalf of all the heads of state and the participants I wish to inform you and all citizens of the CIS countries of the main outcome of our work together.

We debated about 10 issues today. We adopted a memorandum on the main trends in the development and integration of the Commonwealth of Independent States. And finally we decided - and how long we moved toward it but somehow could not make up our minds - the specific question of creating an Interstate Economic Committee, or ISEC. It will be located in Moscow.

Also, we decided to create a payments union, a customs union and a number of others. Later I shall hand over to Ivan Mikhaylovich [Korotchenya] who will list all the documents which were adopted. If we rapidly begin implementing them and scrupulous carry out what we have decided on, then our peoples will feel their effects quite quickly. And we examined and approved an interstate program of measures to perpetuate the memory of citizens who perished in the defense of their homeland and the victims of the Great Patriotic War.

In addition, we decided on such issues as guarantees of rights for members of national minorities and a number of others. As you can judge simply from this list, today's meeting was called on to make an important step forward toward strengthening the Commonwealth and toward the integration of its member countries. One can say with confidence that the debate as to whether the CIS needs integration has been finally closed. The CIS will move toward integration, and gradually deepen that integration following the example, say, of the European Union and other such communities.

All agreed that integration is needed, and not in words but in deeds. Life requires it and the peoples of the CIS states demand it.

Questions of the formation of the machinery of the economic union took up a central place at today's debates. We succeeded in taking a decision on the basic machinery capable of effectively tackling the problem in question. This machinery has been enshrined first of all in the decisions on the formation of a free trade zone, a customs union, a payments union, and in the provisions on an interstate economic committee. Thus real possibilities open up before us to enter 1995 and beyond, having liberated our cooperation from artificially created obstacles.

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Events connected with the celebration of the 50th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War should undoubtedly become a uniting factor for the Commonwealth. Serious attention was also devoted to this topic. The heads of state were unanimous that it is not only concerns of the present day that are important to us but also the memory of the sacred things which united us in the past.

A ruling passed unanimously provides for complete preparations for national festivities to mark the anniversary, publication of memorial books and also joint media coverage of the anniversary.

Naturally, the participants in the meeting did not display complete unity of views on all matters. There were discussions, there were some objections, there were compromise decisions. In particular, not all states are ready for equally energetic participation in the economic union although in the end all voted for it. However, one must not regard this as anything out of the ordinary or view it as some kind of split or crisis in the CIS. We completely respect the wishes, the free will and the interests of every state and their decisions and laws. We do not want to over- dramatize their desire to think over and to, as it were, step to one side to view of the results of integration.

In the final analysis our Commonwealth is a community of free and independent states and we very highly value this principle, this basis. Life and practice are the best judges of our decisions.

I shall now hand over to Ivan Mikhaylovich [Korotchenya] to give you a short report and then I am prepared to answer your questions.

[Korotchenya] Esteemed journalists, esteemed audience, in view of the fact that Boris Nikolayevich has fully described the agenda and dwelled in part on the questions which were brought up and has in general spoken of the results, is there any need for me to read out all 10 questions? No? Thank you. Then I propose moving on to the questions. Let us start with Microphone Number One. Please.

[Bushkevich] Bushkevich, observer on the DELOVOY MIR newspaper. Boris Nikolayevich, in the discussion of the question of the ISEC, what clashes of views were there? Were all views identical on this question? Thank you.

[Yeltsin] Let me tell you that we had two meetings. The first meeting was a closed one with only the heads of state there. And we held a preliminary discussion which was quite frank. Afterwards the second meeting was attended by the whole delegations of the states. Of course, some doubts were expressed about the ISEC. There were differing opinions about where the ISEC should be located - in Moscow, or in Minsk. There you are. In the end we came to a decision, a unanimous decision, that the ISEC is essential. It had been difficult for us to reach that decision: it took more than one year to reach it. But, all the same, we were persuaded that without ISEC it would be increasingly difficult to resolve even questions of bilateral economic relations and cooperation.

[Korotchenya] It was decided to locate it in Moscow. Although there were other proposals; there were discussions about this.

Microphone Number Two, please.

[Unidentified correspondent] The Television and Radio Company of the Republic of Moldova. A question for Boris Nikolayevich, Mr President. Many earlier doubted and still doubt the viability of the CIS. Does today's summit meeting refute them? That is one question, and if I may a second question. Will an agreement to withdraw the 14th Army from Moldova be signed today?

[Yeltsin] I will answer the second question first. The heads of government of Moldova and the Russian Federation, in the presence of the Russian and Moldovan presidents, today signed an agreement on the gradual withdrawal of troops from Moldova, on their appropriate status and so forth. There were no disagreements between us about the document at all. The withdrawal will take three years.

As to whether today's gathering was necessary, whether it lived up to our hopes. I believe that the issues included into the agenda were wholeheartedly included. Not a single issue was removed during preliminary debate or afterwards during the expanded debate. Taking into account that we adopted all—12 questions?

[Korotchenya] Ten.

[Yeltsin] Ten plus two protocol issues. So I am satisfied that it lived up to our expectations.

[Korotchenya] Microphone Number Three.

[Unidentified correspondent] It is well known that the countries of the Commonwealth are at different levels of economic development and at different levels of carrying out reforms. Does this create any problems? And how will they be resolved during the economic integration?

[Yeltsin] We discussed this question today. Of course, we paid attention to it. The general opinion was that we must equalize our reforms because they differ between the different states. Otherwise, if each state proceeds by different paths of reform it will be very difficult for ISEC to exist at all.

[Korotchenya] Moreover, we hope that the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly—it has an instruction on this, Shumeyko took part in the discussion of that question and spoke there about it—an instruction that they should, within the framework of the Inter- parliamentary Assembly, work on legislation on this matter.

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[Yeltsin] To ensure that the countries have identical legislation in this regard.

[Korotchenya] Microphone Number Four. Do we have a Number Four? Number Five, please.

[Melnikova] Anna Melnikova of ITAR-TASS. Boris Nikolayevich, virtually the entire world except the CIS countries was worried about rumors of Chernomyrdin resigning before you refuted them. Did you get the impression that the CIS countries' attitude to events in Russia is cooling down somewhat?

[Yeltsin] No. Quite the opposite. There is a great attraction toward Russia. We have good strong bilateral relations. Also, we are carrying out major peace-keeping missions in various trouble spots. It has to be said that, after all, the bloodshed has ended in Georgia and Abkhazia. Our peacekeeping efforts are working.

Moreover, all the heads of government of CIS countries get on well with Chernomyrdin. So do the heads of state. They respect him. Nobody had any serious doubts and nobody took the media talk about Chernomyrdin's resignation seriously. No, and again - no.

[Korotchenya] Microphone Number One, please.

[Unidentified correspondent] The Kazakh State News Agency. The Russian government has still not voiced its opinion on Nazarbayev's idea of a Eurasian Union. Why is that? And just now, when reading out the agenda you once again failed to mention the fourth item where this proposal should have been discussed.

[Yeltsin] In the first place, I said that all the points on the agenda had been passed and this included the fourth item on the agenda. We listened to the report by Nursultan Abishevich Nazarbayev although each of us, all the heads of state, received documents from him in advance two months ago ...

[Korotchenya] Three months.

[Yeltsin] Was it three months ago? Three months ago all the heads of state received documents from him. And we studied it very carefully. Nonetheless, we all concluded that the idea may be good but it is premature. At present the peoples are not prepared to combine in some sort of union no matter what name we give it.

Therefore the wording of the decision is this: I shall give it to you verbatim. First, the heads of state carefully studied the proposal put forward by Nursultan Nazarbayev on a Eurasian Union. It was decided to note the document and to use the fundamental ideas contained within it to further deepen integration between the CIS countries. Full stop.

[Korotchenya] I can confirm that that was verbatim. There are a lot of people round Microphone Number three. Please.

[Unidentified correspondent] Tajikistan Television. Boris Nikolayevich, Russia and Tajikistan are linked not only by the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between our countries but also by ties of traditional historic friendship between our peoples. We know that the Russian side is doing everything it can to fulfil this agreement. But at present Tajikistan is in such very difficult circumstances that it needs not only cooperation within the framework of the agreement but also help from Russia and the CIS member countries. Therefore, I would like to ask what steps are being taken in this direction. Thank you.

[Yeltsin] Today we discussed questions concerning the situation there and we decided that the commander who is operating there at present is operating virtually as a coordinator and not as a commander and that his status should be raised and he should really be given the status of a commander so that he can operate more boldly there to help your legitimate government and president. We also prolonged the the mandate of the peace-keeping forces including 1995.

[Korotchenya] Microphone Number Three, please.

[Unidentified correspondent] A convention has been adopted on ensuring the rights of national minorities. What specific machinery for implementing these rights were agreed by the heads of state?

[Yeltsin] This is quite a large document and therefore...

[Korotchenya, interrupting] I could say something about this.

[Yeltsin] Please do so, Ivan Mikhaylovich.

[Korotchenya] The draft convention on ensuring the rights of individuals - or to be more exact it is now not a draft but a convention which has been signed by the heads of state - belonging to national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural or religious minorities was put forward by the Russian Federation as you may recall or as you already know. It was also actively supported by Kyrgyzstan and these two took part in elaborating it. It took us a long time to agree this document and to put it to decision by the heads of state. You know that various sides put forward a mass of various stratagems to try to ensure that this document should not be discussed. But today the decision was finally taken without any amendments. It has been adopted by the heads of state and signed with the contents that were previously circulated. It seems that there is no need to list the contents of this document at present.

Microphone Number Four, please.

[Mrtynenko] Martynenko, of the INTERFAX-UKRAINE Agency. Boris Nikolayevich, what is your opinion of Ukraine's position at today's sitting, and what do you expect from your meeting with Ukrainian president Leonid Kuchma? Thank you.

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[Yeltsin] Well, I can tell you it was an entirely different situation from the previous president. We had virtually no arguments [diskussiya] with Ukraine on any subject today.

[Korotchenya] There were no problems, either.

[Yeltsin] There were no problems, either. There was total agreement between us. Leonid Danylovych Kuchma made some very sensible observations and, of course, took part in the discussion but he supported all the documents. He and I are to have a face to face meeting at 1600 today at his request. There is still Shevardnadze to come. I have had a meeting with Snegur. I still have to meet Kuchma at 1600. Our conversation will, no doubt, not be simple or quick.

[Korotchenya] The time allocated by the head of state is running out and I would ask you to put one short question from each of the five microphones. The questions should be short and the answers will be short. Number One, please.

[Bondarenko] Bondarenko of Russia's Military Television. Boris Nikolayevich, Collective security issues were supposed to have been discussed today. Were they in fact discussed?

[Yeltsin] They were just adopted. In their entirety.

[Korotchenya] Microphone Number Two, please.

[Burylko] Vitaliy Burylko of Ukrainian Television. Mr. President, you said it was decided today to site the ISEC headquarters in Moscow. Why was that? According to the CIS statutes, the Commonwealth's governing bodies should be in Minsk. Does this signify a gradual return to the idea of restoring the Union? Thank you.

[Yeltsin] Well, I abstained during the vote.

[Korotchenya] But your president supported it, although earlier a different opinion was expressed.

[Yeltsin] Yes, the point is that a payments union has been set up - well to be more exact it has not been set up but the decision has been taken to set up a payments union, a currency union, free trade and so on and so on. Therefore, we must locate these bodies not only in Minsk but also in other capitals of other states - in Kazakhstan and so on, in Ukraine and in others.

[Korotchenya] Including St. Peterburg.

[Yeltsin] Minsk, on its own would be unable to cope with all this.

That is the first thing. Second, one must take account of the existence here of communications and personnel - because the ISEC will be a major organization - so we came to this decision. Well, Lukashenka was very insistent, of course, on Minsk. But we agreed that in principle he agreed with this document on ISEC. But he will still append his opinion that he wants it to be in Minsk.

[Korotchenya] Your question, please.

[Unidentified correspondent] BIZNES I POLITIKA newspaper from the Republic of Tajikistan. Boris Nikolayevich, in today's very difficult situation which has arisen in the Republic of Tajikistan, the question of uniting the monetary systems would seem to be one of the most important questions. Tajikistan is accustomed to believe you when you give your word. But the opinion exists that there are forces in Russia which are opposed to this unification. What is the opinion of the president of Russia about this?

[Yeltsin] I have never doubted that this is a correct step. Although, of course, some officials are opposed. Such people do exist. But it is necessary simply to combat the officials - or remove them.

[Korotchenya] Your question, please.

[Unidentified correspondent] Has agreement been reached on delegating powers to the ISEC and on mutual convertability of currencies?

[Yeltsin] That is an interesting question in that it really did give rise to a major debate. Practically all the heads of state and foreign ministers took part in the discussion. And we decided that the document which had been prepared should not be adopted in full. Therefore, a document was adopted which consists literally of two points. It says that we shall accept those who voluntarily express the desire today to participate in this and then we shall see how things develop because this is something quite new.

Although world experience shows that some communities do have their representatives in various international organizations. And this has proved worthwhile. But all the same, some people had doubts and therefore we decided that each will decide on a voluntarily basis.

Is that all?

[Korotchenya] No, there is one last young lady.

[Unidentified correspondent] The Mir Interstate Television and Radio Company. In the light of the memorandum on the development of the Commonwealth and the creation of the ISEC, how, in your opinion, will the interstate bodies and transnational companies already in existence and operating develop in the future?

[Yeltsin] I consider that the ISEC and the memoranda adopted will impart a great amount of momentum to the creation of various transnational companies, corporations, joint ventures and so on.

[Korotchenya] As part of economic union.

[Yeltsin] As part, of course, of the economic council.

[Korotchenya] Union.

[Yeltsin] Union. That's all. Thank you. Goodbye.

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Welcomes Tajikistan Joining Ruble Zone

LD2110144494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1205 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 21 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—"The question of joining Russia's and Tajikistan's monetary systems is a correct step. I have never doubted it," Russian president Boris Yeltsin said today in the Kremlin at the news conference held after the CIS summit meeting.

Accord on 14th Army Signed With Moldova

AU2110162294 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1400 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova Andrei Sangheli and the head of government of the Russian Federation Viktor Chernomyrdin signed today in Moscow, in the presence of Presidents Mircea Snegur and Boris Yeltsin, the Moldovan-Russian accord on the 14th Army's withdrawal from the territory of the Republic of Moldova, sources at the Embassy of the Republic of Moldova in Moscow announced.

The text of the accord was initialed in August 1994 by the Moldovan and Russian delegations during bilateral negotiations. The document stipulates that the 14th Army's withdrawal should be carried out within three years after the act of signing the document by the heads of two countries' governments.

The same sources also announced that, also this morning, the ministers of defense of the Republic of Moldova and of the Russian Federation signed a number of additional documents that are part and parcel of the basic accord and include the order of flights of the Russian Aviation in the process of the army's withdrawal and the order of troops evacuation and of shipments, our correspondent in Chisinau Mircea Motrici informed us.

Ethnic Minorities Rights Convention Signed

LD2110145594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1317 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—A convention on ensuring the rights of persons belonging to ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities, whose draft had earlier been tabled by Russia, was signed during the meeting of heads of state of the CIS in Moscow on Friday. Russian President Boris Yeltsin said this at a news conference devoted to the results of the meeting.

Executive Secretary of the CIS Ivan Korotchenya who participated in the news conference added that the document was adopted without any amendments.

Summit Prolongs Peacekeeping Mandate in Tajikistan

LD2110150194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1318 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—The mandate of peacekeeping forces in Tajikistan has been prolonged including the year of 1995, Russian President Boris Yeltsin said at a news conference in the Kremlin devoted to the results of the Moscow meeting of the Commonwealth heads of state.

In addition, it was decided to raise the status of Colonel-General Valeriy Patrikeyev, commander of the collective peacekeeping forces in Tajikistan, the Russian president told journalists.

According to Boris Yeltsin, this was done so that Colonel- General Valeriy Patrikeyev "was bolder in his actions and helped the legitimate government of Tajikistan".

Ukrainian Premier Refuses To Sign Accord on Payments

LD2110162694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1549 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Council of CIS Heads of State meeting in closed session in Moscow has approved the CIS summit's agenda.

Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, in a speech concerning new measures to bring about a tighter CIS union, explained the need for a CIS economic committee, a coordinating body vested with executive powers delegated by signatory states.

The summit participants also discussed Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev's proposal for a Eurasian Union. It was decided that the Kazakh leader's initiative would be taken into consideration.

Most CIS states are expected to sign the proposed agreements.

In the meantime, Ukrainian Premier Vitaliy Masol in an interview with INTERFAX said Kiev would not sign the payment union agreement because "conditions for this are not ripe yet." However, it will sign the deal on a CIS economic committee "but with the Ukrainian legislation in mind." Kiev is also skeptical about schedules laid out in the memorandum and the plan for further CIS integration. Ukraine also is against sending Ukrainian guards to protect CIS borders, Masol stressed.

It is now known that Russian and Ukrainian presidents are due to meet in private at 16:00 on Friday to discuss a range of economic problems including Kiev's debt for fuel imports from Russia.

Yeltsin Comments on Relations With Kuchma

LD2110170094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1641 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—The need for Commonwealth integration has been confirmed. The Commonwealth will follow the path of the

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European Union, since all of its peoples are interested in integration, Russian President Boris Yeltsin told the final news conference on results of the Commonwealth summit here today. This seems to be the major result of the Moscow summit of 12 former Soviet republics that ended this afternoon in Moscow.

The Commonwealth has decided to have a sub-national body to coordinate economic policies of states-members of the Interstate Economic Committee.

It also focused on mechanisms to form the Commonwealth Economic Union, an agreement on whose creation was reached back last year. A free trade zone will be created as part of general process.

The CIS leaders also agreed on payment and customs unions. They decided that the headquarters of the Interstate Economic Committee will be located in Moscow.

Boris Yeltsin told the news conference he is satisfied with the Moscow summit and said all the ten major and two protocol issues were approved.

He denied cooling of Commonwealth feelings to Russia. "On the contrary, we have strong bilateral relations," stressed the Russian president.

Asked about his relations with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, Yeltsin said "we practically did not have disputes on a single issue".

Reporting on military problems discussed in Moscow, Yeltsin said that the 14th Russian Army stationed in the Trans-Dniester region will be withdrawn from the area within three years in accordance with a Moscow agreement.

Nazarbayev Says CIS Not 'True Commonwealth'

LD2210122994 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 22 Oct 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Kazakh President] Nursultan Nazarbayev gave his assessment today of yesterday's meeting of CIS heads of state.

[Correspondent S.Milyanchikov] Contrary to established tradition it was only Boris Yeltsin that summed up the results of the summit of CIS heads of state yesterday. Today, Nursultan Nazarbayev gave his own news conference. Unlike his Russian counterpart, who only had good things to say, Nursultan Abishevich commented on the summit's discussion of the idea of creating a Eurasian Union. According to Nazarbayev, most of the presidents were extremely cool toward this idea, although everyone talks about closer integration. In the event, the heads of state decided to take note of Nazarbayev's proposal for the creation of a Eurasian Union and to use some of its ideas to strengthen the CIS.

According to Nazarbayev, under the existing system most of the 452 agreements that have been ceremoniously signed by the presidents during the history of the CIS remain unimplemented. As a result, the CIS remains more a discussion on paper than a real commonwealth.

Russian Newspapers Comment on CIS Summit

LD2210121794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1156 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—The creation of the Interstate Economic Committee became a feature event of the regular session of the CIS Council of Heads of State, ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA wrote today. For the first time in the history of the new commonwealth an institution with controlling, distributing and executive functions has been created. Actually, it is the firstling of the supranational structure, which will take decisions on some matters, mandatory for all the CIS member states.

DELOVOY MIR carries an article by its political observer, entitled "Economic Integration Speeded up in CIS". The newspaper stressed that problems of the integrated development of the new commonwealth was in the focus of attention of the CIS leaders. Their solution is connected with pursuing an active policy, aimed at the stage-by-stage turning of the CIS into an effective alliance of sovereign states. The session discussed and adopted the memorandum, entitled "guidelines of integration development of the Commonwealth of Independent States". The development of effective economic cooperation, which is the main condition for overcoming the crisis and ensuring the economic upsurge of all the CIS member states, is the principal direction of integration. According to the memorandum, it has become evident that it is necessary to improve the efficiency of the CIS working bodies and to create a mechanism for cooperation inside the new commonwealth. The necessity emerged to give supranational powers to some of those bodies. It is for this reason that the council decided to create the Interstate Economic Committee—a permanent working body of the economic alliance, whose task is to ensure the effective work of alliance and the rational development of integration in the CIS.

The session discussed a number of military matters. The priority task in this sphere is the formation of the collective security system, the observer wrote.

The session of the council may become a breakthrough in the process of economic integration of the CIS member states, KOMMERSANT-DAILY wrote. The results of the session are unprecedented: The agreements on the creation of the payment alliance and on the setting up of the Interstate Economic Committee were adopted unanimously. Participants in the session reserved the right to interpret those agreements in their own way. President Yeltsin said, however, that "a stop has been put in the discussion of the need for economic

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integration." Progress was achieved in the settlement of some political problems. By its structure the economic integration of the CIS member states is approaching the highest world standards. The same question remains: In what way will the signatories to the agreements behave during their putting into effect? Now the agreements reached by the presidents leave much room for one's own interpretation of the commitments assumed. The difference between relations inside the group of independent states and show-off programmes is that in the first case the quest for solutions is impossible without taking into consideration conflicting interests. Anyway, integration has been given a start.

Yeltsin said at a final press conference that the creation of the Interstate Economic Committee, the need for which was discussed on more than one occasion at previous meetings of leaders of former USSR republic, was the main result of the session, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA wrote. The creation of the committee has become a reality. Besides, a decision was taken on the future functioning of the payments and customs alliances of the CIS member states. The Interstate Economic Committee was created in line with the best traditions of "commonwealth cooperation". All the CIS member states agreed that the committee was a necessity. It was one of the few unanimous decisions in the short history of the CIS. However, it is the presidents and governments of the CIS member states, who will decide in what way each particular country will take part in its work and what powers it will delegate to the committee. Thus, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA continues, the Interstate Economic Committee has little chance to become a really working structure. It is more probable that it will be an auxiliary body for those who wish to avail themselves of its services.

A high-flown and elaborate diplomatic protocol, which was typical of the initial period of the CIS history, has become a thing of the past, the SEGODNYA newspaper wrote. The Moscow session was unemotional, modest and businesslike.

The problem of the creation of an Euroasian alliance, included in the agenda on the initiative of Nursultan Nazarbayev, again evoked a lively discussion. The idea was discussed from a theoretical point of view, because most of the CIS leaders, who attended the session, believe that the CIS has not yet exhausted its potentialities. In the opinion of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, the creation of the Interstate Economic Committee may give a new impetus to the development of the CIS.

Unrecognized States Hold Talks

LD2210184594 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 22 Oct 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Dniester Republic is vigorously furthering its ties with fellow self-proclaimed and unrecognized states. There are quite a few of them in the former Soviet Union, most with the terrifying experience of civil war behind them.

[Begin recording] [Irina Tabolova] The event that took place in Tskhinvali is causing reverberations mainly in the republics whose representatives participated in it. Delegations from the Dniester Moldovan Republic, the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, and the Gagauz Republic came to South Ossetia to sign a friendship and cooperation treaty.

[A. Karaman, vice president of the Dniester republic] I believe that what some mass media have long been talking about, that is the setting up of a kind of CIS Mark Two, as it were, is what we have in effect come close to. It is a union of unrecognized states, that's what we are going to call it. But in its development and in relations between the states it has gone much farther than the existing CIS.

[Tabolova] Therefore these as yet unrecognized republics, which came into being as a result of a stormy socio-political evolution, and whose struggle for independence was accompanied by armed clashes, have now manifested their wish for unification and mutual assistance.

Moscow Seen Regaining Former Authority in CIS

MK2210102094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 22 Oct 94 p 1

[Report by Sergey Parkhomenko under the "By Agreement" rubric: "Moscow Regains 'Some Authority Functions.' CIS Leaders Set Up Interstate Economic Committee"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The 16th summit since the CIS' inception attended by all heads of state without a single exception was organized in Moscow without frills, in a modest and businesslike manner. Everything has returned once again according to cycle: in the absence of more serious business to attend to, the big boss summoned lower-level clerks for yet another briefing to give them guidelines and chart the prospects—well, of course, also to hear their views as behooves a democrat and to turn down quietly their objections and proposals.

Summing up the talks that lasted nearly three hours, Russian President Boris Yeltsin said at a news conference yesterday that participants in the meeting unanimously approved an agreement on setting up the Interstate Economic Committee (IEC). "Not all participants in the meeting demonstrated a full unanimity of views. Not all states are ready to be equally involved in the economic union," the Russian Federation leader conceded, stressing in the same breath that the draft of the IEC constituent document was "passed without amendments, right in its initial version." No one voted against it. Leonid Kuchma, who for the first time attended the talks as Ukrainian head of state, deserved particular

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praise: "The situation was entirely different from what it was under the former president. Today we did not have arguments with Ukraine on a single question." [passage omitted]

Despite the Belarusian president's protests, it was decided to set up the IEC head office in Moscow. In Boris Yeltsin's opinion, the key argument was the availability of "experienced specialists" on interstate cooperation in the Russian capital. It seems unlikely, however, that leaders of the sovereign countries will be delighted by the possible comeback of Comrade Baybakov's [a Soviet Gosplan chief] time- and battle-tested old guard (which, as is known from the ancient wheeze, has "an immense destructive capacity") to full-time decision-making activity. It seems rather that another argument of the Russian president held sway: in his opening address he proposed that if any complications or delays arise over the creation of the IEC, its powers be temporarily be turned over to the Russian Economic Cooperation Ministry. Apparently, the prospect that national economies will be simply subordinated to a Russian ministry did produce the desired impression.

Journalists who attended the news conference also were given the opportunity to form their opinions about the tone and style of the talks that had just finished. When asked by a correspondent of a Tajik newspaper about the prospects for recreating the ruble zone, Boris Yeltsin responded that he himself has "always supported the idea," but locally there are—so far—some officials who oppose the introduction of a single currency "with whom we will fight and simply replace them." [passage omitted]

What is it that comes to mind in this regard? Ah, yes: "Pluralism is essential for us—there cannot be any disagreement."

Shevardnadze Comments on CIS Summit in Moscow

LD2310145794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1323 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze said he considered the CIS summit in Moscow on October 21 as "an event marking the beginning of an active process of interaction between the independent states."

He said on national television on Saturday he believed that the crisis which had hit all former Soviet republics could be overcome only through economic integration. Shevardnadze said none of the ex-Soviet republics could get an access to the world market on its own but it could be done by joint efforts.

Shevardnadze said the time had not come yet to carry out the initiative of Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev concerning establishment of the Euro-Asian union. However, Shevardnadze said that such a union could be created in the future and that such countries as Mongolia and unified Korea could join it.

Shevardnadze said that during his meetings with Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin and Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev the issues of bilateral economic cooperation, establishment of the Georgian Army and settlement of the conflicts in Abkhazia and South Ossetia had been discussed.

Shevardnadze said the talks on these issues would be continued in Tbilisi. He added that Chernomyrdin, Kozyrev and Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev would visit Georgia in early November.

CSCE Karabakh Settlement Plan Seen as Important

MK2210100094 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 22 Oct 94 p 4

[Report by Georgiy Bovt: "Karabakh Settlement. Peacekeepers May Make the Place Crowded"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A special session of CSCE representatives on a peaceful settlement in Karabakh ended in Vienna yesterday. It ended in a sensation: According to Azerbaijan's TURAN news agency, it adopted a plan for the deployment of international peacekeeping forces in the conflict zone.

What Baku has long been pressing for and what Moscow has been overtly and covertly resisting did happen: the question of the presence of international peacekeepers in one of the conflict zones on the territory of the ex-USSR has been solved in a fundamental matter. The very precedent in the given case is even more important than the contingent's size. [passage omitted]

Nobody is hiding the fact that the CSCE plan is clearly anti-Russian because it calls for preventing the deployment of Russian troops in the conflict zone. This idea had long been blowing in the wind (Turkey's parliament, for example, approved in principle the sending of its contingent to Karabakh this past summer). One is getting the impression, however, that the CSCE has finally resolved to send its soldiers (or NATO soldiers, frankly speaking) to the region only after concluding with Azerbaijan a contract worth many billions to develop the oil shelf in the Caspian Sea.

Now one can expect that the Moscow-CSCE rivalry, thinly disguised of late, for primacy in the Karabakh conflict may take on more open forms. In the realm of diplomacy, Russia has nothing to oppose to the CSCE plan because Vladimir Kazimirov, the president's special representative on Karabakh, seems to have exhausted all the verbal arguments. The settlement context may alter, however, in the event of yet another Armenian offensive.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 22 Oct

LD2210085194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0625 GMT 22 Oct 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

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[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 22—Moscow newspapers cover today a session of the CIS Council of Heads of State, held on Friday. ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA sets forth President Yeltsin's speech at the opening of the session and lays special emphasis on his words about the vital importance of the use of integration potential of the new commonwealth. NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA stresses that Yeltsin described the creation of the Interstate Economic Committee as the main result of the session. "It is the presidents and governments of the CIS member states who will decide in what way each particular country will take part in the work of the committee and what powers the country will delegate to it. Thus, the Interstate Economic Committee has little chance to become a really working body," the newspaper writes. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA calls attention to the fact that the question on the creation of an Euroasian union, included in the agenda of the session of the CIS Council of Heads of State on the initiative of Nursultan Nazarbaev, again became a topic of a lively discussion. The newspaper points out that "the idea was discussed from the theoretical point of view, because most leaders, who took part in the session, believe that the CIS has not yet exhausted its potentialities."

Articles about the discussion at the State Duma of a report of the Russian Government on the fulfilment of the 1994 federal budget feature prominently in today's newspapers. Oksana Dmitrieva, deputy head of the State Duma subcommittee for the budget, writes in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA that the budget deficit now stands at about 50 per cent. According to Dmitrieva, the miscalculation of revenues to be received from privatization (100 billion roubles were received instead of the planned one trillion) was the main setback. NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA also calls attention to the enormous budget deficit. Reporting the Thursday meeting of the government, which approved the draft budget for the next year, IZVESTIYA stresses that "the government drafted a tough budget and is promising to reduce inflation to the level of one per cent a month."

Newspapers continue to comment on the murder of Dmitriy Kholodov, a journalist, and on the accusations against Defence Minister Pavel Grachev in this connection. It is reported that on his demand the Russian Prosecutor-General's office brought a lawsuit against the MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS newspaper on charges of calumny, and that the state duma is going to hear a report of the defence minister. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA frontpages an article entitled "Boris Yeltsin: One Should Not Throw Mud at the Army and its Leaders." The article quotes an interview, given by Yeltsin in St.Peterburg, in which he emphatically rejected the idea of the involvement of the defence minister in the murder of Dmitri Kholodov. The newspaper carries as well the full text of the statement of Pavel Grachev, in which he described accusations against him and other top officials of the defence ministry as a "horrendous political provocation."

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA frontpages the full text of Yeltsin's interview in St. Petersburg, as well as its own commentary, which points out that "the president said just a couple of words about Dmitriy Kholodov and far more words about General Grachev. The president told the country about how the General saved democracy in October 1993, what a nice man he is and how much he is respected by the army ... A monstrous political assassination has been committed in Russia, the country is being strangled by criminal terrorism, fear spread even to the corridors of power, and at this very moment the leader of the country is telling us about 'nice people'".

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA carries an open letter to the Russian president, signed by Colonel Yushkov. He writes that he was listening to the president's speech in support for the Russian defence minister "with a mixed feeling of shame, indignation and hopelessness." It is part of his official duties to meet many high- ranking officers in Russia and other CIS member states, and he stresses that "none of them praised General Grachev" and that "their opinion of him ranges from mockery to dislike."

IZVESTIYA carries an article about corruption in Russia. The newspaper cites the statistics of the Russian Interior Ministry about the professional status of the people due to be taken to court of charges of corruption. According to this information, 42.7 per cent of them are staff members of ministries, committees and local power structures, 25.85 per cent are officers of law enforcement agencies and 11.3 per cent are workers of the crediting and financial system.

According to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, Leonid Kheifets, artistic director of the Russian Army Theatre, was beaten up by bandits on Friday. The newspaper believes that it was an act of terrorism and links it with the attempts to rent out the building of the theatre to organisers of the show business, to which, according to the newspaper, the Russian Defence Ministry gave its consent. Leonid Kheifets emphatically opposed the idea.

TRUD carries an interview with Vladimir Ovchinsky, a criminologist, in which he pointed out that "Russia is being turned into an international laundry for laundering the mafia money." In his opinion, the whole of the Russian reform has been accompanied by the expansion of organised crime.

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA, PRAVDA and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA carry reports from various parts of the country about preparations for the trade union protest day, scheduled for October 27. Newspapers of various political orientations express condolences over the death of Sergey Bondarchuk, a famous Russian film-maker.

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Troop Withdrawal Accord Signed With Moldova

LD2110122594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1106 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Gennadiy Yezhov, Anna Melnikova and Andrey Serov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 21 Oct—An agreement between the Russian Federation and Moldavia on the legal status, procedure, and terms for the withdrawal of the Russian Federation military formations temporarily stationed on the territory of the Republic of Moldova was signed in the Kremlin today. The text of the document points out that the agreement comes into force immediately after "necessary inner-state procedures are carried out," and that Russian troops should be withdrawn from Moldavia within three years after this moment.

Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin signed the agreement for the Russian side, and Moldovan Prime Minister Andrei Sangheli signed for the Moldovan side. The signing ceremony was attended by the presidents of both countries, namely Boris Yeltsin and Mircea Snegur.

Commander Lebed Comments

LD2210221294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2119 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—The Russian- Moldavian [Moldovan] agreement on status and withdrawal of the Russian troops stationed in the Trans-Dniester region "does not correspond to foreign political interests of both Russia and sovereign Moldavia," 14th Army commander Lieutenant-General Aleksandr Lebed told the Ostankino TV news program tonight.

The general said he is a detached observer of the document but thinks that this is done "under someone's pressure". "Russia has no money or place to withdraw the army," he said.

"No matter what they say the 14th Army is a guarantee of regional peace and stability," said the army commander.

He said he "disagrees with the so-called army reforms". In his opinion, "there are no reforms as such".

Lebed said "he has no evidence of corruption in the army, but the army does not hold reforms at all".

Kozyrev on U.S. Approaches to Bosnia, Gulf Issues

LD2210162994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1549 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Before leaving Moscow for Murmansk, where he will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Russia's Arctic areas from Nazi Germany, Russia's Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told Interfax that the difference in the Russian and US approaches to the Bosnian problem and the Gulf conflict produced no estrangement between Moscow and Washington.

Kozyrev saw the difference as "simply a difference in the approaches."

Political tensions mounted, however, after Kozyrev's visit to Baghdad but Kozyrev explained them by saying that it was wrong to expect "an idyll to follow the cold war period." "Rational policies, and not an idyll, came to replace the cold war period and it takes time for many to get accustomed to the new status quo" Kozyrev said.

Besides, as soon as Moscow moved to defend its interests, "some folks in the West developed a temptation to preach all kind of preachings, including high morals," Kozyrev said.

"Unless someone wanted to hold an object lesson in fighting, what was wrong with our efforts to avert hostilities?" Kozyrev asked adding that he was sure no one wanted fighting on the Iraq-Kuwait border.

He said more work would be done to promote Russian-US relations and Russian-US partnership would return to normal.

Moscow To Continue To Press for Sanctions Lifting

LD2110175294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1614 GMT 21 Oct 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature by diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov and others]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow is determined to go on pressing for lifting the sanctions against Belgrade, a senior Russian diplomat said.

The United States, at a contact group meeting in New York this week, showed a "more than restrained" reaction to Russia's proposal to further ease the sanctions, the diplomat told Interfax on Friday.

"The Americans still can't give up their former stereotypes," he said. "The United States tends to put the blame for the tragedy in former Yugoslavia on Belgrade. Even if that's true it's only partly so, because nobody is either in the right or in the wrong in the civil war in Bosnia. Besides, it is shortsighted, to say the least, to overlook positive developments in Belgrade's policy: the Union Republic of Yugoslavia supports the peace plan of the contact group, has closed its border with Bosnia and has agreed to international monitoring. In our view, the international community should back the line of President Slobodan Milosevic and stimulate him."

The diplomat said Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev's visit to Iraq that preceded the contact group meeting "to some extent induced the Americans to

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toughen their position on sanctions against Belgrade." "It seems that Washington has the wrong impression that the Russians are taking 'odious characters' under their wing. But Slobodan Milosevic is not (Iraqi President) Saddam Husayn. While the latter still has to prove the sincerity of his intention to meet the demands of the international community, the Serbian president has demonstrated not in word but in deed that he can be trusted," the diplomat said.

"It'll take time to persuade the Americans to abandon their old stereotypes," he said.

Kozyrev Departs for Norway

LD2310185194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1805 GMT 23 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Vasiliy Belousov and Dmitriy Gorokhov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Murmansk, 23 Oct—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who was in Murmansk for the celebration of the anniversary of the defeat of the German troops in the Polar regions, has left that area for Norway this evening. He heads the Russian delegation to the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of northern Norway from the German fascist occupation by Soviet troops.

A group of WWII veterans who participated in the liberation of Kirkenes from the fascist invaders flew to this Norwegian town from Murmansk the same day.

Kozyrev Comments on U.S. Policy Toward Iraq

BR2110143294 Rome L'INFORMAZIONE in Italian 21 Oct 94 p 19

[Interview with Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev by Paolo Mastrolilli in New York; date not given: "Split in the Name of Saddam"]

[FBIS Translated Text] "There is a war under way between the United States and Russia over the solution to a highly complex and sensitive problem."

Just a few days have gone by since Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev's visit to the United Nations, where he sought both to defend Saddam and to patch up a diplomatic semisplit with Washington, which resulted from his trip to Baghdad while American troops were taking up their positions along the Kuwaiti border.

Madeleine Albright, the U.S. representative on the Security Council, coldshouldered him. The NEW YORK TIMES reported the encounter, going so far as to describe it as "an unusual public clash reminiscent of the Cold War debates."

Kozyrev is now in the Low Memorial Library at Columbia University, and he makes no bones about the difficulties: "There is a psychological difference between the United States and Russia in their approach to the Gulf problem. Some have the tendency to say what the truth is and the others ought to follow it" [as published].

[Mastrolilli] What does Moscow lay at the United States' door?

[Kozyrev] We accuse Washington of pursuing a toughness at all costs policy. The United States wants to remain impassive, whereas we want to try cooperation. Care must be exercised in pursuing a policy of toughness regardless of all else: Former terrorists have turned into winners of the Nobel peace prize precisely when someone tried to involve them. Why do we not try using a little diplomacy on Saddam? Why do we not try to draw him into something positive?

[Mastrolilli] Nevertheless, it would appear that, in particular, you condemn what has been described as the embargo to the bitter end policy.

[Kozyrev] Does imposing sanctions mean pronouncing a life sentence on a people? No. The sanctions must be used flexibly.

[Mastrolilli] Many people take the view that the main thing behind all this is the $17 billion oil trade agreement that Moscow has already signed with Iraq.

[Kozyrev] A lot of countries have major interests in the Gulf. This is not necessarily true in Russia's case, apart from the debt. Iraq owes us $7 billion, and we want them back. Moscow has credits for $84 billion worldwide: Some of the countries in debt to us are poor and will never pay up, but Iraq is potentially rich. By this I do not mean that we have vital economic interests in the lifting of the sanctions: From the political and strategic points of view we are not against the United States, but we want stability because we want economic cooperation.

[Mastrolilli] Clearly spoken, especially for a career diplomat. So Moscow and Washington are openly at loggerheads?

[Kozyrev] No. The confrontation has been overdramatized. We should not be using megaphone diplomacy, but we are not facing a crisis. Anyway, the Cold War is over, because democracy has defeated the Soviet system, which was its natural enemy. There is no danger of a war, at least as long as Yeltsin remains in power. However, the bureaucracy is slower than politics, and so there are still those who think along the old lines both in Russia and the United States. People do not wake up one fine morning and cease being enemies: It is a process that takes time.

[Mastrolilli] Mr. Minister, just for a moment you sounded as though you had been overcome by nostalgia.

[Kozyrev] It is not nostalgia. Of course, it was easier to control Yugoslavia, Somalia, or Afghanistan when they were the scene of a battle between the United States and Russia. Now, for example, Tajikistan has all the potential to become another Afghanistan.

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[Mastrolilli] What is Moscow's attitude toward the possibility of enlarging NATO?

[Kozyrev] Expanding it eastward may serve a dual purpose. NATO was built up to defend itself against the threat posed by the USSR, so why widen it to countries like Poland now that the USSR is no more?

Foreign Ministry Gives Details on Iraq Visit

LD2110142694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1406 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Yuriy Tyssovskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—The recent visit to Baghdad by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev resulted in achievements of long-term political significance. Viktor Posuvalyuk, chief of the Middle East and North Africa Department of the Russian Foreign Ministry, told this at a news conference in the ministry's press centre on Friday. Posuvalyuk participated in negotiations of the Russian foreign minister with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz and Iraqi Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhap. The conversations centered on such key problems as the need of an urgent pullback of Iraqi troops from the border with Kuwait, Baghdad's recognition for sovereignty of Kuwait and return to Kuwait of persons who are missing since Kuwait's occupation by Iraqi troops in 1990-1991.

"After the negotiations, Iraqi citizens learned from the joint statement that Kuwait is viewed as an independent state and that Iraq is ready for its recognition", Posuvalyuk said. He said that during the Russian delegation's visit to Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, the partners in the negotiations spoke highly of Russia's political initiative. However, distrust for Kuwait [as received] was voiced because of the unpredictability of its leaders' conduct. The partners urged Moscow to continue to exert vigorous effort so that Baghdad should fully comply with all resolutions of the U.N. Security Council. It was suggested that a plan for long-term stability and security in the region should be drawn up.

Regarding the U.N. Security Council's Resolution 949 that demands the pullback of Iraqi troops, Posuvalyuk said that substantive changes of principled importance had been made in its draft on Moscow's insistence. The clause saying that Iraq is ready to recognise Kuwait and the Kuwaiti border under the U.N. Security Council's Resolution 833 was included in the draft resolution. The wording that the Security Council welcomes diplomatic effort to resolve the conflict was included, too. Article five, binding Iraq to inform the United Nations in writing of any movement of the Iraqi Army in the southern part of the country and a number of other articles were dropped. After that Russia voted for the resolution.

The Russian foreign minister was constantly in touch with the United Nations, the United States, Britain, France and China, Posuvalyuk said. Kozyrev's trip undertaken on the initiative of the Russian president had been agreed upon in a telephone conversation between Boris Yeltsin and President of the United States Bill Clinton. Posuvalyuk said that the press is often supplied with a cruder and somewhat primitive version of the motives which prompted these efforts by Russia. It is not only a matter of seven billion dollars that Iraq owes to Russia and that Russia would like to have back, he said. Russia is a great power and is responsible for the security of a region situated in proximity to it. Events in the region cause repercussions in Russian political life. So it was necessary to stabilise the situation, prevent an armed confrontation and switch events into a political route. Moscow wishes to have a broad outlet to the region, cooperating with all its countries, not only with Iraq, and there are tangible successes on this road. The visit of the Russian foreign minister had the purpose to consolidate this course.

Answering questions from ITAR-TASS, Posuvalyuk said that there are doubts in the West if Saddam Husayn can be trusted. These doubts are somewhat incorrect. Trust without practical prerequisites smacks of idealism, he said. The decisions of the U.N. Security council put Iraq after its aggression within such rigid frames that it was compelled to meet the demands, also for the elimination of various kinds of weapons of mass destruction. The monitoring of Iraq's military potential along the lines of the United Nations is effective enough. It confirms that Baghdad complies with the U.N. Security Council's resolution on disarmament. In future this pressure should continue to compel Iraq to meet the requirements which it does not meet as yet. Russia does not mention lifting sanctions from Iraq, Posuvalyuk said. There is a need for rigid monitoring for a period of six months which would confirm Iraq's readiness to comply with all U.N. resolutions. After that, strictly in keeping with the U.N. Security Council's Resolution 687, it would be possible to consider lifting the oil embargo and later other sanctions.

Posuvalyuk said that Russia will continue to insist that Iraq recognises Kuwait's sovereignty and the Kuwaiti border and decides the problem of the return of missing persons.

Envoy in Cairo on UN Resolution 944

LD2210155094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1538 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Yelistratov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo October 22 TASS—Resolution 944, adopted by the UN Security Council the other day, does not give "legitimate reasons" for using force against Iraq, Nikolay Kartuzov, Russian ambassador to Iraq, said in a televised interview on Friday.

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During the Security Council's session, Russia managed to amend the wording of this resolution so that the system of international sanctions against Iraq could not be augmented, he said.

"Russia and the United States differ on the issue of settling crisis in the Persian Gulf" which arose because of concentration of Iraqi troops on the border with Kuwait, he said.

The recent visit of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev to Baghdad was aimed at "putting out the fuse of war and contribute to shunting the train of events in the region from war-oriented path to settlement of problems by peaceful means," Kartuzov said.

Russia made diplomatic efforts at a most appropriate period of time, he said in conclusion.

Envoy Warns Iraq May Transfer Terrorism To Israel

LD2110174694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1614 GMT 21 Oct 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: with reports by diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov and others]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] After the crisis in the Persian Gulf is settled, Iraq may transfer its attention in the sphere of political terrorism to Israel, acting Israeli Ambassador to Moscow Alexander Ben-Zvi declared at a press conference on Friday responding to Interfax.

Commenting on results of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev's brief visit to Baghdad at the request of Interfax, Ben-Zvi pointed out that he himself "greatly doubts in the possibility to trust Iraqi President Saddam Husayn."

At the same time Ben-Zvi recognized that "Moscow had a very important goal, to prevent a new bloodshed in the Persian Gulf region."

When asked about Tel Aviv's "nuclear ambitions, Ben-Zvi reassured that Israel would not be the first country which "will introduce nuclear weapons on the Middle East."

Zhirinovskiy Says CIA, Mosad Control Russia

LD2110172094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1601 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Russian nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy accused the Russian Government on Friday of implementing in the country the scenario drafted by the CIA and the Israeli Secret Service.

"The social and economic situation in Russia is developing according to a scenario prepared by the American CIA and the Israeli "Mosad" intelligence," Zhirinovskiy said in the State Duma commenting on the report of First Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets about the economic situation in 1994.

"All structures of authority in Russia have been infiltrated by CIA agents," said Zhirinovskiy.

The "agents," according to him, are now dealing a strike on the "last bastion of order" which are the Armed Forces.

According to Zhirinovskiy, the military correspondent of the "MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS" daily was killed by a parcel bomb in order to "initiate an attack on the army."

Espionage Charges Boost Conversion Program

MK2210104094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 22 Oct 94 p 3

[Report by Mikhail Lantsman under the "Conversion" rubric: "U.S. and Canada Institute Experts Declassify Defense Sector Directors' IQ's. Espionage Charges Greatly Boost Popularity of Russian-American Conversion Program"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The news conference given by supervisors of the joint Russian-American conversion program—Gennadiy Kochetkov, director of the Conversion and Privatization Center of the U.S.A. and Canada Institute; and Thomas Kemp, of Pepperdine University (California), was prompted by a publication in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA. The article entitled "Questionnaires Instead of Encrypted Messages" accused Pepperdine University of carrying out espionage activity on Russian territory. Serving as implicating evidence was a questionnaire sent to directors of defense enterprises for participation in the joint conversion program. In the authors' view, the U.S. intelligence services have thus obtained access to secret information (addresses and telephone numbers of secret facilities, areas of expertise, state-of-the-art technological developments) without having to spend much on sending in spies, recruitment, and so forth.

In Mr. Kochetkov's opinion, the ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA publication indicates the Federal Counterintelligence Service's negative reaction to Russian defense enterprises' uncontrolled contacts with their Western partners. Ironically, right after the publication program chiefs received more than 50 cooperation proposals from Russian defense enterprises.

Mr. Kochetkov pointed out that the recurrence of spy mania could thwart already concluded contracts and deny Russian enterprises converted to civilian uses access to world credit markets, because potential investors least of all wish to be involved in Russia's internal political squabbles.

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The program's aim, Mr. Kochetkov explained, is to train enterprise chiefs in modern management techniques and to search for partners in the United States to finance conversion projects. The Joint Conversion Center was set up two years ago at the initiative of then Deputy Prime Minister Gennadiy Burbulis and Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin. Pepperdine University is one of the leading scientific centers devising conversion programs in the United States. In its first year, the program was financed from private donations. Currently it draws on financial support from the U.S. Agency for International Development. In the two years, 80 military-industrial sector chiefs took part in the program. The annual payback from deals signed in the meantime was $10 million.

The program supervisors emphasized that data requested in the questionnaires are related only to the resources involved in conversion projects. In addition, under current legislation enterprise directors have to receive prior permission from the State Defense Industry Committee to work with foreign partners. In selecting candidates, U.S.A. and Canada Institute experts are guided by one single criterion—intelligence, Mr. Kochetkov said.

India Discussing Buying Military Hardware

LD2210165194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1539 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Bulantsev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New Delhi October 22 TASS—The Russian Admiral Gorshkov aircraft carrying cruiser may be sold to India. The purchase will soon be discussed in Moscow by Russian officials and Secretary of the Indian Defence Ministry K.A. Nambiar, well-informed sources in the Indian capital told ITAR-TASS. In case the deal is concluded, the ship will be modernized and become a flagship of the Indian Navy.

Circles close to the Russian Defence Industry confirmed to ITAR- TASS today the possible sale of the aircraft carrier. A high- ranking staffer of the Russian State Committee for the Defence Industry said that the Indian Government "has decided to buy the ship, but the deal has not been concluded". The Indian side may ask for replacement of some on-board armament systems. The staffer stressed they are ready to fulfill such an order and do the repairs.

An Indian military delegation headed by K.A. Nambiar will arrive in Moscow either on October 31 of on November 1. Within five days in Moscow the delegation will also discuss possible sales of three squadrons of MiG-29 fighters, up to ten advanced submarines and other materiel. India values high the good quality of Russian materiel and its relative cheapness. Indian military experts believe that the MiG-29 fighter exceeds the U.S. F-16 fighter-bomber in many aspects.

The Indian intention to buy advanced subs from Russia results from a Pakistani-French contract on the delivery of three Augusta subs and other combat equipment for the Pakistani Navy. In the opinion of circles close to the Indian Defence Ministry, the purchase of Russian submarines will help keep the balance of naval forces.

The delegation is authorized by the Government to sign any military contracts or packages of agreements with Russia on condition Moscow does not sell materiel to Pakistan.

Meanwhile, Pakistani Ambassador to Moscow Tanwar Ahmad Khan told ITAR-TASS that Pakistan is interested in purchases of foreign-made armaments, including those of Russia. A moscow visit of Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto scheduled for December may discuss prospects for bilateral military cooperation.

Moscow, Singapore Agree on Arms Supply Agreement

LD2210153694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1031 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Stanislav Bychkov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Singapore, 22 Oct—Russia and Thailand have agreed the text of a bilateral agreement on supplying Russian weapons to Thailand's Armed Forces, Lieutenant General Viktor Samoylov, Rosvooruzheniye director, told the ITAR-TASS correspondent by telephone from Bangkok. He said the document, the first of its kind in the history of relations between the two countries, would be signed "soon, possibly in November."

The general concluded the latest round of negotiations on the arms deal in Bangkok today. "The results are encouraging, and the framework for cooperation in weaponry for the land, sea, and air forces has been defined. Russia is actively moving into the southeast Asian arms market," the director said.

This move was begun in June, when an agreement was signed in Kuala Lumpur to supply the Malaysian air force with 18 MIG-29 fighters. The first consignment of these aircraft is to be delivered next April. Malaysia is now on the point of making a decision to acquire first 66 and then another 130 T-72 tanks for its 90,000-strong land forces. True, it is not yet clear where these Russian-manufactured machines will be purchased: Poland and Slovakia have been mentioned alongside Russia.

Local newspapers have written that the Russian arms merchants are also holding talks with Singapore and Indonesia on supplying their output. "The scarcity of information on this needs no explanation," Viktor Samoylov said. "Acquiring arms is a delicate matter, there are political nuances."

Since the end of the 1980s-early 1990s nearly all the southeast Asian countries have embarked on a policy of

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modernizing their armed forces and equipping them with modern weaponry. At the moment they have as a rule U.S., Chinese, or Western European weapons of the 1960s in their armories. According to the Singapore STRAITS TIMES, the arms market in the region will amount to about 100 billion dollars in the decade ahead.

Foreign Ministry Official on DPRK Nuclear Program

LD2210170994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1506 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Andrey Bychkov]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Moscow, 22 Oct—Russia should take part in any structure put in charge of the reorientation of North Korea's nuclear program, a high-ranking official from the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry, who asked to remain anonymous, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent today. [passage omitted]

Russia is interested in taking part in the consortium for several reasons, the diplomat continued. First of all, it is necessary to replace the heavy-water nuclear reactor currently in use in the DPRK with a light-water one because reactors of the latter type are safer in terms of non-proliferation of the nuclear weapons and meeting the IAEA requirements, he said. He did not rule out the possibility of a Russian light-water reactor being supplied to the DPRK, all the more so that Pyongyang and Moscow signed an agreement to this effect in 1985. Another important aspect is that Russia is willing to contribute to establishing peace and stability on the Korean peninsula as a whole.

However, before any comments on the new situation can be made, "we should study without haste all the details of the agreements reached by the United Stattes and North Korea," said the official of the Russian Foreign Ministry.

Black Sea Exercises Postponed After Storm

LD2210113094 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] More than 1.5 billion rubles of damage has been caused to Sochi after a storm broke out in the early morning of 19 October. This was reported to ITAR-TASS at the Russian Ministry for States of Emergency today. According to an official on duty, the storm destroyed many economic sites: Transmission lines, roofs, structures, and windows of residential houses. The worst affected sites are the airport, the fishing combine, and the sanatoria Volna and Adler. The fiercest storm that came down on the Black Sea coast of Bulgaria has badly damaged the port's structures, with waves measuring four to five points on the scale [scale not specified]. The gales speed reached 20 meters a second. Visibility has sharply deteriorated.

All this has forced the commanders of the naval exercises Maritime Partners-94 to postpone them. The exercises, in which ships of Bulgaria, Greek, Italy, Russia, Romania, the USA, Turkey, and Ukraine were due to take part, were supposed to start today.

European Union Suspends Trade Talks With Russia

LD2110143294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1416 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By BUSINESS-TASS correspondent Irina Bolshova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—The talks between the European Union and Russia on an interim trade agreement are making extremely slow progress and, most likely, an agreed draft of the document will not be submitted to the European Union's council on October 31. Consequently, the entry of this document into force, planned for January 1, 1995, will be put off, BUSINESS- TASS learned today from officials of the Russian Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations.

Trustworthy sources report from Brussels that the recent events in Russia, especially the ruble's crash and the dismissal of the principal Russian financial leaders, had greatly complicated the interim agreement talks. The European Union will apparently wait until the financial and political situation stabilises and the new Russian financial managers, who are to sign the necessary documents, are legally endorsed.

Although contacts with the Russian authorities have not yet been officially suspended, most European Union members deem it necessary to slow down the talks.

It is common knowledge that an interim trade agreement is needed, because the agreement on partnership and cooperation between Russia and the European Union has still not been ratified by the two sides, although the application of its commercial chapter brooks no delay.

Military Pacts Signed With Armenia, Kyrgystan, Moldova

LD2110132494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1315 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev today signed agreements on military cooperation with the heads of the Armenian, Kyrgyzian [Kyrgystan], and Moldavian [Moldovan] military establishments, who are now in Moscow.

ITAR-TASS has learned from officials of the information and press department of the Russian Defence Ministry that the concluded Russo- Armenian agreements are devoted to joint inspections of Russian military units, deployed on the territory of Armenia, to the

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organisation of the reception, technical service, and protection of aircraft at military airfields in the two countries, and also to cooperation in the field of anti-aircraft defence.

An agreement was signed with Kyrghizia on the terms for leasing places where the Russian Defence Ministry's seismic services are cited on Kyrghizian territory.

The agreement with Moldavia, officials of the Russian Defence Ministry noted, is devoted to problems of jurisdiction and mutual legal assistance in cases, linked with the temporary stay of Russian military units on Moldavian territory, to the flights of Russian Air Force planes, temporary based in Moldavia, and to the use of the airport in Tiraspol, where the 14th Russian Army is deployed, by the transport aviation of the Russian Armed Forces.

Russian, U.S. Officials Discuss Nuclear Weapons Safety

LD2310145094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1423 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian and U.S. working groups on strategic stability discussed the issue of cooperation in the sphere of raising the level of safety of nuclear weapons in Moscow this week.

The Russian Defense Ministry told Interfax that during the talks the parties had also decided to exchange information on implementation of the START-1 quarterly. The appropriate agreement had earlier been reached by the Russian and U.S. presidents during their meeting in Washington on September 28.

In Moscow the two delegations considered the issue of limiting the zone of patrol by submarines on the proposal put forward by Russia. Russia also said it was concerned by the provision on the flank limitations fixed in the Treaty on conventional armaments in Europe.

In accordance with this treaty, Russia can have only an insignificant amount of armaments in the Leningrad and North Caucasian military districts. Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev has recently told Interfax that Russia cannot agree with such flank limitations.

During the talks the two delegations confirmed their intention to achieve an agreement on separating the terms of strategic and tactical anti-missile defense.

The Russian military experts were led by Aide of the Defense Minister, General Gennadiy Ivanov. The U.S. delegation was headed by Deputy Secretary of the Defense Department Eshton Carter. The two working groups are expected to hold another meeting at the end of the year.

Grachev Departs on Working Visit to Far East Region

LD2310211394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2058 GMT 23 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 24 TASS—A group of Russian Defence Ministry top officials led by Defence Minister Pavel Grachev left on a working trip to the Far East on Sunday.

Before his departure from Moscow, Grachev said that during the week-long trip he plans to study the situation in the region and visit the Kuril islands to see the restoration work and examine the troops stationed there, following the recent devastating earthquake.

The minister is also expected to discuss aid to the quake victims. Grachev will meet with the commanders of the Far Eastern Military District, visit the Kamchatka Peninsula and the flood-hit regions.

In Ulan Ude Grachev will hold talks with the leaders of the Trans-Baykal Military District.

Special attention will be paid to contacts with local civil authorities. The defence minister plans to meet with the heads of local administrations in the Trans-Baykal region and the Far East to discuss cooperation between regional bodies of power and the Army.

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Political Issues

Grachev Asks Procuracy To Pursue Libel Case

LD2110140494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1326 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 21 Oct—Russian Federation Defense Minister Pavel Grachev has issued a statement to the procurator general's office which contains a request to reexamine "facts of libel and abuse toward him in the MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS newspaper." Journalists were told this today by Lieutenant General of Justice Vladimir Nikitin, head of the department of affairs of the Russian Ministry of Defense.

It was pointed out to an ITAR-TASS correspondent at the procurator general's office that Pavel Grachev's statement has been considered. It concerns an article which appeared in MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS on 20th October.

Mindful of the fact that without an investigation being carried out it is impossible to establish the truth regarding facts of this kind, the procuracy has instituted criminal proceedings according to Article 131, Part Two of the Russian Federation Criminal Code under "abuse." The investigation department of the general procurator's office has been instructed to carry out an inquiry into the case.

According to the Criminal Code, Part Two, Article 131, "the abuse of honor and dignity of an individual, expressed in an improper manner in the media" is punishable by corrective labor for a term of up to two years or a fine of up to 20 minimum monthly salaries. It also does not exclude denial of the right to engage in certain duties.

Calls Accusations 'Political Provocation'

LD2110162194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1537 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev has called accusations about the military leadership's involvement in journalist Dmitry Kholodov's murder spread by mass media "a monstrous political provocation."

Grachev's statement handed over to INTERFAX claims that organizers of this campaign have overstepped all legal and moral norms, including the presumption of innocence.

Grachev is convinced that the aim of the organizers is to force the defense minister to resign. "All available means are implemented for this, the cynical use of the tragic death of a journalist, dirty insults, slander, trampling of human dignity," Grachev's statement says.

He said that he "is not a timid person, I looked in the eyes of death on the battle field. As tens of thousands of our officers and generals I am able and I can defend our Motherland. I will be able to defend my officer's honor and human dignity as well."

He reported that in accordance with the legislature he addressed the RF General prosecutor's office "to bring charges and to call the slanderers to criminal responsibility."

He also declared that "servicemen already had an opportunity to see for themselves the elaborate and vicious tactics of organizers of anti-military campaigns. The matter concerns not the character of the defense minister, against whom the major strike is aimed. The situation is much worse. The behind-the-scenes conductors of this persecution try to bring about a crisis of power. They play the army card and push society beyond a dangerous line where chaos and anarchy reign," Grachev stressed.

At the same time he declared that "the army has not yielded and will not yield to any political provocations. I have repeatedly declared and say it again that we, Russian servicemen, strive for stability and civil accord in society," the statement says.

GRU Chief Seeks Legal Proceedings

LD2210173194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1549 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The head of the Main Intelligence Department known by the Russian abbreviation GRU, Fedor Ladygin, has asked the Prosecutor General's Office and the Moscow Prosecutor's Office to institute criminal proceedings against the authors of a publication in the newspaper MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS.

Ladygin believes that the article "They must know the murderers" published by MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS on October 19 contains "slander and insults of his honor and dignity," The Defense Ministry information and press department told Interfax Saturday.

An officer of the Defense Ministry also said that Ladygin had sent an official refutation to MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS.

Commander Appeals to Yeltsin

LD2110145994 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1200 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Vice Admiral Viktor Khmelnov, commander of the Pacific Fleet, and the Fleet's military council have appealed to the president, the prime minister, and the chairman of the State Duma to protect the Ministry of Defense and its leaders from unjustified attacks and accusations. In a telegram to Moscow, the

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Fleet's command also said that the playing up of anti-army hysteria in connection with the murder of journalist Dmitriy Kholodov should not be allowed. The document notes that this latest anti-army campaign undermines the authority not only of individual officials but also that of the whole armed forces.

Air Force Scores Attack on Army

MM2110134594 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 94 p 1

["Statement by the Air Force Press Center"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The vile wave of accusations against the Army and its leadership which had just died down has arisen again in the mass media—both in print and on television—in recent days, bringing with it a tide of filth. This "criticism" reached an unprecedented scale in recent days in connection with the death of the journalist Dmitriy Kholodov, a murder in which the Defense Ministry leadership has been accused of complicity. The lead here is undoubtedly being taken by MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS, which has arrogated to itself the right to publicly and prematurely insult and offend people in uniform with impunity without mincing its words and with recourse to criminal slang. MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS is heading the political attack on the Army by assailing its command.

The struggle for justice is undoubtedly a sacred and noble cause. But it must be conducted by people with clean hands. If you have irrefutable facts you should go to court. Even then it is only the judge who can deliver the verdict. After all, MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS and the rest are supposedly campaigning for the building of a democratic and, consequently, rule-of-law state. But, since that is not the case, we must assume that other aims are being pursued. What they are after is not the Mercedes cars, the tonnes of goods that have been sold, not even the deutschmarks that some people have earned! What they want first and foremost is popularity—and, furthermore, of a brash, sensationalist kind. MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS did not devote a single line to the death of Marshal of Aviation Nikolay Skomorokhov, twice hero of the Soviet Union (what was sensational about that, after all?). Yet he was one of our fatherland's most prestigious and honored servicemen and a legendary air ace who shot down 46 enemy planes.

Had it so wanted, the newspaper could undoubtedly have told its readers about his heroism, service of the fatherland, devotion to duty, honor, and dignity. But it did not want to do that, nor is it going to. Just as it did not find itself able to mention the good name of an illustrious air ace.

Yes, a journalist has died. His parents have lost a son. That is a tragedy. And we sincerely express deep condolences to them. But it is equally tragic that more and more people are dying every day in peace time in our country—killed by gangsters, even killed by hunger and disease. In such a situation who is the ultimate authority when it comes to the truth? The honor and dignity of each member of our society must be reliably protected. Be it Hero of the Soviet Union Grachev or journalist Kholodov.

Filatov on 'Unproven' Accusations

LD2210143194 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1400 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Unproven accusations against the leadership of the country's Ministry of Defense are unacceptable, according to Sergey Filatov, the chief of the presidential staff.

He said this while talking with journalists, INTERFAX reports. Filatov said that the Russian president's support for Defense Minister Pavel Grachev is based on information from the Procuracy, Control Directorate, and a special commission that monitored the removal of Western Group of Forces property from Germany.

If the accusations levelled against the military establishment by a number of publications in connection with the death of journalist Dmitriy Kholodov have any foundation, then this should be made public, according to the chief of staff.

Colonel's Sends Open Letter

MK2210??2094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Oct 94 pp 1, 2

[Open letter to President Yeltsin by Colonel Serafim Yushkov, information director of the Headquarters for Coordinating Military Cooperation of the CIS Member States, in the "Power" column: "A Colonel Writes to the President. Why Boris Yeltsin Likes Pavel Grachev"]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 21 October an open letter to the Russian president signed by Colonel Yushkov came to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's editorial office. The letter may have also been received by other mass media organizations. We publish this appeal owing to the acuteness and importance of the problem raised in it.

Yesterday, with a mixed feeling of shame, indignation, and hopelessness I watched and listened to your speech in defense of Army General P.S. Grachev, Russian Federation defense minister, reported on NTV from St. Petersburg.

Such feelings, so inappropriate to your words, arise apparently because you, to put it mildly, are very partial in your assessments of the professional and moral qualities of your defense minister.

First, you have stated that our country has not had "such a strong minister" for a long time. I agree with you only in the "has not had such" part of your statement. Never before has the country had a minister whose army would be so unarmed, unclothed, and unshod. Never before has the army had so many officers without decent housing

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accommodation. Never before has the army been so poorly manned. Never before has it been so humiliated and demoralized.

What is it that makes P. Grachev so strong? Maybe only that he himself (not the army) is propping up the regime which has brought both the country and the entire army to a full collapse?

Second, you have said that Pavel Sergeyevich enjoys authority in the army, the government, and the Federal Assembly. I beg to disappoint you.

By virtue of my official duties, I meet with generals and officers of the Defense Ministry and the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces; field officers, instructors and cadets of military academies; generals and officers of the CIS armies.

Believe me, Boris Nikolayevich, I have not heard one good word about P. Grachev from a single military serviceman in Russia or the "near abroad." The spectrum of comments on him varies from ridicule to aversion.

I do not know about his authority in the government, but in parliament, I am sure, the attitude toward him is no better than in the army.

Third, you have called on the mass media not "to throw mud" on your defense minister. Yet, in my opinion, after the numerous (undisproved) charges against P. Grachev in the press, not a single clean spot has been left on his uniform or name.

An honest person in such a situation would resign, but a dishonest and unscrupulous one will pretend that nothing has happened.

Fourth, you have described Army General P. Grachev as "a prominent statesman." I have to agree with this. Amid other current "statesmen" of Russia he does not come off any worse. Yet the paragons' standards are so inferior!

Fifth, you have concluded that the flow of information denigrating the minister was caused by the fact that a year ago P. Grachev defended democracy. Well, if you think that using tank fire on parliament is the sole way of protecting democracy, then you are right. But in October 1993 P. Grachev was defending the "democrat" Yeltsin from the "democrats" Rutskoy and Khasbulatov. He threw in tanks to shoot your erstwhile associates—the "democrats." Correct?

Therefore I believe that today P. Grachev is being condemned simply by honest people, regardless of their political persuasions, who are no longer content to put up with what you are doing to our Fatherland. I knew one such man—Dmitriy Kholodov—whom you are indirectly accusing, posthumously, of slandering the "good and strong" P. Grachev.

I shall not tire you with objections. I shall only express my suppositions over your assessment of the Russian defense minister. There are three. Either you—the supreme commander—do not know the real situation in the army. Or you, knowing the true worth of P. Grachev, are holding on to him in the hope that he will yet again be able to man the crews of a few tanks. Or he is very close to you in spirit, views, and conduct. All three options are deplorable for Russia, the army, and the officer corps.

[signed] Col. Serafim Yushkov, chief, Press Center of the Headquarters for Coordinating Military Cooperation of the CIS Member States

Editor Scores Yeltsin in Open Letter

MK2210093094 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 22 Oct 94 p 1

[Open letter to the Russian president by Pavel Gusev, MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS editor-in-chief]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear Boris Nikolayevich:

We have known each other since 1986. Then, in the years of stagnation and the absence of the freedom of speech, you supported MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in your very first months at the helm of the city party organization. We, who had gotten used to shouts, threats, and lectures from Staraya Square [then Central Committee seat], sensed a faint breeze of change. But the wind is fickle. Soon you were thrown out and we lost a protector, but we did not betray you. MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS did not publish a single line against you despite immense pressure from party organs. We supported B.N. Yeltsin or at worst were silent while a well- orchestrated howl was arising around us. A witch-hunt was under way.

MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS journalists have done a lot in the period of recreating a renewed Russian state. We did not demand awards, titles, or material rewards. We received the freedom of speech—the rest did not matter. Now—at the most difficult time—that economic reform is passing along a bumpy road and the political situation is far from stable, MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS continues to give its backing to the Russian president, trusting him and his line.

But at a certain point there has to be a limit. Even metal has the quality of aging, and monoliths that seem eternal eventually crumble. You have known Pavel Grachev for a relatively short time. But you already consider him the best minister of all time. We take the liberty of doubting that.

What about Georgiy Zhukov? Where should he be relegated to from his historical shelf? There have been others, no less talented, fearless.

Wasn't it Grachev who betrayed you and his people in the days of last October by failing to bring in troops to help the suffocating democracy?

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Isn't it Grachev under whom violence and lawlessness in the troops reached a climax?

Isn't it Grachev under whom corruption is eroding the army top brass and a mafia net has been created in the Western Group of Forces?

An army parvenu, a vengeful and limited man, Grachev has long lost any authority he had in the troops.

Boris Nikolayevich, ask your aides to order anonymous surveys in the Armed Forces—you will be horrified by their results.

MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS and I have always been honest with you. Even at the recent meeting, if you remember, I did not say a word about those responsible for the death of Dmitriy Kholodov. I did not want to exploit the occasion.

To general astonishment and indignation, on the day of the funeral of a journalist who died because he was investigating murky dealings in the Russian Army (it would be simply foolish to talk about other reasons—Dima did not write on other subjects in the newspaper), you told the entire country that the current minister is a decent man. It is not those rubbing shoulders with you every day who are closest to you. Remember that same Khasbulatov, Rutskoy—your "true comrades-in-arms." You have been strong thanks to the support of those who have been far from the summits of power.

A criminal action against Grachev has unlawfully been halted, he is involved or has until very recently been involved in commercial activity—we have published these documents.

We were shocked and insulted... What is at stake is our prestige and your decency.

You may well fail to notice all my words. I implore Viktor Vasilyevich Ilyushin, Vyacheslav Vasilyevich Kostikov, and the members of Boris Nikolayevich's family to bring these lines to the president's attention. We are not the least newspaper in Russia. We are the most popular Moscow newspaper, we have many millions of readers, we have the readers' trust behind us. We cannot swallow this slap in the face.

You are wrong, Boris Nikolayevich!

Newspaper Attacks Grachev as 'Upstart', 'Vindictive'

LD2210091494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0820 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—"Now, at an extremely complicated period of time, when the economic reform is coming up against numerous difficulties and a political situation is far from stable, MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS continues to support the president, continues to believe in him and his course," says an open letter of Pavel Gusev, editor-in-chief of MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS, to President Boris Yeltsin, which was published today.

The letter expresses disagreement with the evaluation of Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev, his personality and performance, given by the president.

"Is it not Grachev who betrayed you and his nation in October 1993, when he did not commit the troops to action and refused to render assistance to the democracy, which was in a desperate plight? Is it not Grachev, under whose command violence and outrages in the army reached the limit? Is it not Grachev, under whose command corruption is eroding the top army leadership and a mafia network has been created in the Western Army Group? Grachev is an army upstart, a vindictive and narrow-minded person, and his reputation in the army was ruined long ago," the letter said.

Link Seen as Army Theater Director Beaten

MK2210091094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Oct 94 p 1

["NG" report under the "In Brief" rubric: "Leonid Kheyfets Beaten Up"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Leonid Kheyfets, the outstanding Russian stage director, was subjected to a bandit attack on the afternoon of 21 October. Four criminals bashed in the door and burst into his apartment. They did not conceal the fact that their visit was connected with the talks on leasing out the Russian Army Theater for 25 years to an organization that was going to convert it into a pop-music venue. Leonid Kheyfets, artistic director of the Russian Army Theater, found out about the talks when they had been virtually completed. More than that, one of the documents had his forged signature. Kheyfets was not, of course, going to resign himself to the destruction of the company, which under the accord would be permitted to play there three days a week. He was supposed to appear before the artistic council yesterday but the bandit raid prevented him from leaving his apartment. The director was cruelly battered and told that he would be killed if he sets foot in his theater again. Demanding $300,000, the criminals left the apartment. There are grounds to contend that the talks on leasing out the theater to the show business people were conducted with the consent of the Defense Ministry, which still owns the theater, and which for the second time this week has become embroiled in a big scandal connected with individual terrorism. At any rate, both the slaying of Dmitriy Kholodov and the attack on Leonid Kheyfets cannot be attributed to the usual criminal world, for which journalists and actors have always been inviolable.

Fyodorov Urges Yeltsin To Meet With Democratic Factions

LD2110175194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1609 GMT 21 Oct 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy, edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

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[FBIS Transcribed Text] The December 12 Liberal-Democratic Union's faction, led by Boris Fyodorov, is ready to "form a government of associates from representatives of the democratic factions in the State Duma to get Russia out of the crisis."

In a statement addressed to the Russian President, Boris Yeltsin is urged to meet with democratic faction leaders to discuss this matter. The faction also voiced its refusal to nominate its own candidates to the government, considering such a way of cabinet formation as senseless.

The address describes the situation in Russia as "a government crisis." Lawmakers believe that "the policy of a pseudo-coalition government will inevitably lead to the collapse of the state". That, in their opinion, is borne out by the ruble crash on October 11, by an outbreak of inflation and economic chaos, by the dismissal of the finance and central bank chiefs, and by an act of terror at the newspaper Moskovskiy Komsomolets editorial offices, testifying to the authorities impotence to fight organized crime. The faction also accused the government of "chronic inability to induce a civilized dialogue with the trade unions."

Meanwhile, at a news-conference held at the end of a session of the CIS Heads of State Council in Moscow, Yeltsin again exposed as a lie media rumors that Premier Chernomyrdin might resign.

"Chernomyrdin is treated well in CIS, too, said Yeltsin. He has very kind relations with all heads of state and government. And there can be no grounds for spreading resignation rumors."

Yeltsin Says Idea of Eurasian Union 'Premature'

LD2110130694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1234 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin regards Nursultan Nazarbayev's idea of a Eurasian Union premature. "Nations are not yet ready to form again a union, no matter how it is called," the Russian president told a news conference in the Kremlin on the results of the meeting of heads of state of the CIS held in Moscow on Friday.

Yeltsin said the heads of the Commonwealth countries heard a report on the proposals of Kazakhstan's president and decided to "take into notice" the document he proposed and to use the main ideas contained in it for the futher deepening of integration.

The Russian president denied that the attitude in countries of the CIS to Russia became cooler. "Quite the contrary", he said. "There is interest in closer ties with Russia. We have strong bilateral ties". In addition, Russia is implementing peacekeeping missions in various hot spots in the territory of the CIS, Yeltsin said.

President Yeltsin also pointed to "good attitude and respect of all heads of state and government of the CIS for Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin".

Filatov on Lack of Unity in Chechnya

LD2210153094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1435 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The lack of unity among the leaders of the various groups opposed to the Dudayev regime is the main problem that hinders the endeavors to gain peace in Chechnya, the Head of the Russian President's Administration Sergey Filatov told journalists.

According to him, the Chechen opposition is "engaged in a game when some preserve their strength and others lose." He knows that a number of Chechen leaders want to join the opposition forces, which "will freshen up the processes underway there," Filatov said.

The Russian leadership has not interfered in the military actions in Chechnya; it has no intention of resolving the problem by force, Filatov stressed. "Many do not understand it; they believe that since Chechnya is part of the Russian Federation, Russia must use force and impose a state of emergency there to normalize the situation for the sake of civilians," he said.

According to Filatov, if Russia decides to send troops to Chechnya, the political climate in the republic will sharply change. The world community closely follows the development of events in and around Chechnya, he said. "The Chechens must resolve their problems on their own," Filatov pointed out.

Shakhray Says Intervention Not Planned in Chechnya

LD2110173694 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1600 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Russian authorities do not plan to intervene in the Chechen conflict at the moment, since it does not constitute a threat to the country's territorial integrity. Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray told our correspondent this today, saying that Moscow backs those forces that are in favor of maintaining the republic within the federation and of resolving the crisis by peaceful means. Shakhray is of the view that that force is currently the interim council headed by Umar Avturkhanov. Russia's State Duma today endorsed Shakhray's proposal to hold a closed-door sitting on the situation in Chechnya.

Yeltsin Media Meeting, Press Freedom Stance Derided

MK2110142094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Oct 94 p 1

[Report by Vitaliy Marsov in "Freedom of the Press" column: "'Do Not Lie!' This Was the Advice the Russian President Gave to Chief Editors"]

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[FBIS Translated Text] Because it has been two years now that NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's chief editor has been denied the privilege of hearing presidential recommendations in person, we do not know how the chiefs of mass media organizations reacted to such an interesting piece of advice from Mr. Yeltsin. Possibly they even asked the question: "Do you, Mr. President mean that it's us who's lying, or should we communicate your request only to opposition publications?"

TV footage of the president's meeting with chiefs of some (their circle is progressively narrowing) mass media outlets shown 19 October recorded yet another interesting presidential idea: It is difficult for the Russian people on their own to judge for themselves what the newspapers are publishing and TV is showing.

Given that the president will not have another people any time soon, signs are that something will have to be changed in the mass media. True, the president said that freedom of the press in inviolable.

And still, who must not lie? Only the press, or does this advice also extend to the administration?

Economic Issues

Budget Deficit Rises To Over 45 Trillion Rubles

LD2110171094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1539 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By BUSINESS-TASS]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—The deficit of the federal budget as of October 1, 1994 amounted to 45,800 billion roubles, an increase of over 65 per cent on the amount of deficit set under the law on the 1994 federal budget. These preliminary results are given in a memorandum on the implementation of the russian state budget for nine months of the current year submitted by the Russian Finance Ministry at the request of the State Duma.

The budget deficit increased considerable in the third quarter in connection with the fact that a mechanism adjusting seasonal needs in budget financing has not been completely worked and introduced.

The Finance Ministry admits that 36,000 billion roubles were spent to cover up the deficit from inflationary sources—the credit of the Central Bank of Russia and its profits. At the same time the state used actively the possibilities of non-inflationary borrowing of funds from money markets. The current deficit to a sum 5,000 billion roubles was covered by the emmission of state securities. A deficit of 4,600 billion roubles was covered by foreign borrowings.

Soskovets Predicts Bankruptcy, Unemployment Shock Soon

LD2210083594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0811 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—The Russians will have to live through yet another shock following the liberalisation of prices in 1992 and it will come pretty soon. This will be the shock connected with bankruptcies and unemployment, First Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets told TASS on Saturday.

He said the government has to resort to the unpopular measure because "only in this case can we curtail inflation to a reasonable level by the end of the year". "The price of the decision is known—it is unemployment which will become a reality for Russia", Soskovets added.

The first deputy premier said that two types of unemployment are the most dangerous. One of them is regional which can emerge in areas full of enterprises of one industry (like it is in the Primorye territory full of defence enterprises and the Ivanovo region abounding in textile plants). Cities-plants, however, are the most threatening as they were constructed especially to serve a certain major enterprise (like it is in the case of closed nuclear cities).

"This is the major headache for authorities. These problems should be not only regulated, but also solved", Soskovets said.

Soskovets: Main Task Is To Make Reforms Controllable

LD2210084094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0733 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—First deputy chairman of the Russian Government, Oleg Soskovets, believes that the main factor accounting for the industrial slump is a tough monetary and credit policy pursued since the middle of 1993.

Soskovets told TASS on Friday that among other reasons accounting for production decline are more than 35 per cent cuts in defence appropriations, the cessation of inflationary financing of capital investments and decreased supplies of energy and other resources to CIS countries at low prices.

A sharp drop in such supplies led to production decline in the whole chain of industries by approximately 10 per cent, Soskovets said.

Besides, a drop in the purchasing power of the population has also negatively affected the output and accounts for 20 per cent of the overall industrial decline. The remaining 20 per cent are connected with the introduction of market mechanisms and ensuing consequences, in particular, the slow adjustment of enterprises to new conditions, the disruption of economic ties, poor state control over the economy with simultaneous rejection of planning in the sphere of material and technical supplies, the vice-premier said.

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According to Soskovets, the government plans to stabilise the situation through systematic support to important sectors of the economy, state assistance to the adjustment of the accumulated scientific and industrial potential to the market economy and launching such market mechanisms as bankruptcy of enterprises.

"The situation which developed in the economy not only allows, but insistently demands new accents in the activities of the government," Soskovets said.

"The main efforts made by the cabinet are focused on making the process of reforms controllable, eliminating spontaneous elements as much as possible," the vice-premier said.

Soskovets: First Signs of Stabilization Appear

LD2210085994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0814 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—"Despite the continuing industrial slump the first signs of stabilisation in economy have emerged", Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets told TASS on Saturday.

He said that the industrial slump signals that the country is switching from a planned to a market economy. "Dying out is mostly what cannot survive in conditions of a market economy and free competition", he said and explained that the slump is mostly caused by decreasing defence orders and declining shipments of energy and other resources to CIS countries.

Besides, heads of enterprises are slow in adapting themselves to new market conditions, Soskovets admitted.

The slump is the most heavy in processing branches of industry—45 per cent in machine-engineering, 35 per cent in the chemical and petrochemical industries, 41 per cent in the light industry.

However, the fuel and energy complex is working stably: gas production dropped only by two per cent, coal—by 10 per cent, oil and gas condensate—by 15 per cent, electricity production—by 7 per cent.

Decreasing home and foreign demand for metallurgic products resulted in reduced production in the industry which goes along the world tendency, according to Soskovets.

Production tends to increase in timber industry and the slump in machine-engineering has slowed down, he added.

Soskovets radically opposed the comparison of the current situation in Russia to a collapse. "The country is farther away from it than in the end of 1991. Reforms in Russia are now more successful than in any of the CIS countries which is proved by a stable rouble", Soskovets said.

In contrast to other CIS countries, Russia has already solved such a pain-staking problem as the liberalisation of economy. It has eliminated shortages and queues, accumulated hard currency reserves and exports stably exceeds imports.

"I would not excessively dramatise the issue of a decreasing industrial potential, low investments and technological backwardness", Soskovets said and explained that most of the potential was created in soviet times without due consideration of economic goals, was not aimed at consumers and cannot be efficient in a free market economy.

Historical experience showed that a certain waste of capital is inevitable during a crisis period in economy, according to the first deputy prime minister.

Soskovets Links Industrial Debt With Restructuring

LD2310093594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0924 GMT 23 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 23—First deputy chairman of the Russian government, Oleg Soskovets, believes that "unless the problem of mutul indebtedness of enterprises is resolved, any progress in other directions of the economy is impossible, including unimpeded financing of state expenditures, economic restructuring and boosting investment activities."

Soskovets told TASS on Sunday that the unpaid taxes amounted to over 11 trillion roubles because of insolvency of enterprises and result in insufficient financing of the budgetary sphere, poor state support to enterprises and the defence industry.

A government commission set up in accordance with the president's decree to improve the system of payments and chaired by Oleg Soskovets, believes it is necessary to improve the legislative basis for relations in the sphere of payments and accounting, solve the problem at the regional level, at the level of industries and enterprises.

In particular, lawbills have already been drafted "On Addenda and Amendments to the Russian Law on State Duties, "On Bailiffs", "On Executive Procedures" and some others. Priority was given to the preparation of 24 documents, Soskovets said. At the same time, for purposes of normalisation of relations in the sphere of payments and accounting between Russia and the Baltic states a draft resolution of the Russian government is being worked out on the involvement of Russian commercial banks in the settlement of these relations, the vice-premier said.

Soskovets admitted that the main burden of coming out of the crisis rests with enterprises themselves. Part of them have already adapted themselves to market conditions and have been successfully operating. However, for

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different reasons the majority of enterprises are unprepared for new economic methods. "We should bear in mind that the state can give financial support to a limited number of enterprises producing high-tech products," Soskovets said. "The rest will have to rely on themselves for the most part, and those who do not realize it will face bankruptcy," he added.

Soskovets Cites Nonpayment of Wages as 'Social Problem'

LD2310094094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0921 GMT 23 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 23—"Wage debts are a major social problem", Russian first deputy prime minister Oleg Soskovets told TASS on Sunday.

He said overdue wage debts comprised 3.9 trillion roubles by September 1. Besides, the debts of the federal budget comprised 1.9 trillion roubles.

Soskovets said the government had decided to pay wage debts first to the so-called "non-production sphere" - defence, the interior ministry, bodies of executive authority, social welfare benefits.

Payments began in September and will be completed by the end of the year, he said and added that wage debts to teachers and professors were also paid.

Paramonova Promises Intervention To Support Ruble

LD2410101694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0931 GMT 24 Oct 94

[By BUSINESS-TASS correspondent Robert Serebrennikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 24 TASS—Tatyana Paramonova, the acting chairwoman of the Central Bank, promised hard currency interventions to support the ailing Russian rouble.

"To protect the rouble exchange rate hard currency reserves will be used, and not only of the Central Bank", Paramonova told BUSINESS-TASS on Monday in her first interview after she replaced Viktor Gerashchenko as the chief banker of Russia.

Gerashchenko had to step down after an unprecedented collapse of the rouble in October.

However, Paramonova admitted that it is hard to predict future developments both on the rouble and hard currency market.

Among the priority tasks of the Central Bank she listed the improvement of the payment and settlements system in the country, "an efficient use of the instruments of the monetary and credit policy", an improvement of the mechanism of hard currency transactions.

"The Central Bank has much to do in this direction and we have good reserves for that", Paramonova said and added that the main task of the bank is "to create a modern banking system corresponding to the Russian might".

State 'Not Capable' of Paying Debts at Once

MM2110134994 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 21 Oct 94 p 1

[Feature comprising reports by Lyubov Tsukanova and Sergey Mashtakov: "Trade Unions Threaten Protest Actions... and the Government Threatens Sanctions"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Conciliation Commission for the Implementation of the Treaty on Social Accord has held a special session under the chairmanship of Sergey Filatov devoted to the appeal of the FITUR [Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia] Coordinating Committee for Solidarity Actions.

Let us remind readers: The question of an all-Russia trade union protest action against delays in issuing pay and increasing unemployment was already examined in the Conciliation Commission one week ago. First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets and representatives of FITUR's sector trade unions were invited to a special session last Tuesday. Mikhail Shmakov, leader of the independent trade unions, stressed that the government, which owes 40 percent of the total wage backlog, is in breach of the Treaty on Social Accord—to wit, the clause which says that the government should adopt measures to eliminate budget indebtedness. FITUR, M. Shmakov recalled, signed the treaty with a reservation on this clause: The federation insisted on an indication of a timescale for the "adoption of measures"—within the first six months of 1994.

Oleg Soskovets could not answer the direct question as to what period of time it will take the state to extinguish its debts. In his opinion, the question should be resolved gradually, by negotiating the "level of debt" and defining specific time frames for the extinguishing of indebtedness by sector, as was done in the case of the coal workers. In this way, he believes, the "rhetoric" of the clause in the Treaty on Social Accord which has become a bone of contention can be overcome. At the present time, the first vice premier said, the state is not capable of paying all its debts at one and the same time: This problem is closely connected with the more general problem on which the special government commission for overcoming the payments crisis is working. The problem of nonpayment, Oleg Soskovets said, should be examined as a separate area of economic policy.

The Conciliation Commission recommended that the government should continue to negotiate its stance on the demands put forward by FITUR. Sergey Filatov remains convinced that all procedures in the search for a compromise should be activated in order that the protest

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action scheduled for 27 October does not take place—society has no interest in an escalation of tension. [Tsukanova ends]

[Mashtakov report] The Russian Federation Government urgency commission headed by First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets has carried out an urgent examination into the question of the state's debts in unpaid wages to employees of the budget sphere. The reason for the review is the all-Russia protest action scheduled for 27 October by FITUR.

The tough stance taken by the trade unions in dialogue with the government is entirely understandable. In the words of FITUR Chairman Mikhail Shmakov, debts in unpaid wages to workers and employees today stand at more than 4 trillion rubles [R] in the country as a whole. The state's share accounts for 40 percent of this sum.

But this is by no means all. The problem of unemployment is no less severe. Today just the officially registered number of unemployed people in Russia stands at over 1.3 million. And this figure, alas, is continuing to grow.

At the same time, in the words of Oleg Soskovets, one of the causes of the state's indebtedness to employees in the budget sphere is the fact that this year the government had a "shortfall" of R13.5 trillion in taxes paid into the budget. Those owing taxes to the state include many commercial banks and joint-stock companies.

Another factor which entails debts in the form of unpaid wages, in the opinion of Russian Federation Labor Minister Gennadiy Melikyan, lies in the actions of enterprise administrations. The Labor Ministry leader cited three types of debtor enterprise. Those who put money from wage funds "to work" on the side. Those in which the administration is "intimately" interested in reducing staff. And finally, those hoping that sooner or later the state will redeem their debts to the workers.

So, what does the government intend to do? In the opinion of Anatoliy Chubays, chairman of the State Committee for the Management of State Property, the introduction of "punitive" sanctions against enterprises which owe money in unpaid wages is essential. If an enterprise cannot pay its workers, it should be declared bankrupt and an appropriate commission should be set up. Another solution is to privatize state enterprises according to the "soft" option, entailing the sale of some of the production units plus a recovery package.

Time will tell how effective these measures prove to be.

Ways To Boost Foreign Investment Proposed

MM2410123594 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 20 Oct 94 p 2

[Article by Mikhail Delyagin and Sergey Tsakunov of the Analytical Center Under the Russian Federation President: "Foreign Investments Have Stopped at the Tax Barrier"]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to official data, the volume of foreign investments in Russia is absolutely insignificant. In 1993 it amounted to just over $2.9 billion (of which direct investments made up $2.7 billion). From this viewpoint Russia is almost invisible on the world capital market, whose total turnover is estimated at $120 billion. To judge by recent data from the State Committee for Statistics, the size of direct foreign investments in 1994 will be considerably less than last year: In the first half of the year they totaled just $278 billion [as published]—24 percent of the figure for the analogous period of 1993.

There are several reasons for this drop. The chief reason is foreign investors' definite disappointment with the effectiveness of direct foreign investments in our economy. Despite all the talk of the need to improve the general investment climate, nothing has changed. The national regime of economic management remains rigid, and tax conditions have not changed. The ruble's stability is in question. Private and state racketeering (particularly the practice of applying normative acts "a posteriori," which has forced Western companies operating on the Russian market to introduce a permanent entry for "Fines" into their financial plans), the lack of business culture and financial discipline—all this makes investments in Russia an extremely risky business.

The mistrust which still exists in some Russian enterprises in respect of foreign investors, particularly those aspiring to be involved with the capital, does not help to improve the investment climate either.

State organs of power display deplorable passivity. A vivid example is provided by the government decree with the reassuring title "On Activating Work To Attract Foreign Investments into the Russian Federation Economy," adopted 29 September 1994. You would think that the government had directly tackled the question of attracting foreign investments. But its text elicited profound disappointment in those who were familiar with the preparatory work. It had been assumed that, in addition to the usual points about "assignments for the future," the government would resolve at least one or two acute questions that are of great concern to foreign investors working on the Russian market. These obstacles are spoken of at almost every meeting with representatives of foreign firms.

It is a question of implementing Point 1 of Presidential Edict No. 1466 of 27 September 1993, better known as "grandfather's proviso," on removing or lowering taxes on investments being channeled into Russia from abroad, on lifting the restrictions on labor remuneration for foreign personnel, and, finally, on stopping counting a difference in the rate of exchange as a profit for a foreign firm, even if it has done nothing with the currency. There are several other major problems. But these are not the trouble.

The final version of the text of the decree did not contain a single point that would have made foreign investors

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working on the Russian market feel any better, apart from assignments to numerous departments to "elaborate," "submit," etc. A departmental struggle and the confrontation between the Ministry of Economics, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, and the Ministry of Finance diluted to nothing those provisions that were enshrined in this decree when it was drawn up.

Of course, it is not a matter of some one decree. A new version of the law on foreign investments awaits us this fall. The State Duma has already received its draft. It provides for quite a gentle and favorable regime of economic management and the removal of a number of serious barriers. If the law on foreign investments is adopted in the form in which the specialists have prepared it, it will undoubtedly improve the investment climate in the country significantly. We do not have such certainty, however. The Duma not only examines and adopts laws extremely slowly but also sometimes makes amendments to them which render all the previous work unnecessary. Therefore foreign investors will evidently have to expect changes no sooner than next year. Under such conditions it will be rather hard to attract investments to Russia with further promises. Particularly as work is being carried out not just in words in East European countries and in China, which are Russia's direct competitors for "investment dollars."

While discussing the problems of foreign investors' problems in Russia, it must not be forgotten that there is keen competition for foreign investments on the world financial market. With the United States' and Western Europe's entry into the phase of post-crisis recovery domestic demand for capital in donor-countries themselves is increasing.

However the official figures for direct investment in the Russian economy do not give a complete picture of what is happening in this field. These figures mainly reflect registered major investments, which, as the State Committee for Statistics data show, are made by no more than 10 major Western countries working in the Russian market. The official figures do not take account of the hidden investments made via intermediaries. Nor do they take account of portfolio investments, the inflow of which has increased sharply this summer.. Morgan Trust Guarantee experts have assessed this inflow at $300-350 million a month, while WALL STREET JOURNAL analysts put it at $500 million a month.

The growth of foreign investors' interest in portfolio investments in the shares of Russian enterprises undergoing privatization testify to a reorientation on the capital market and the emergence of a small segment of this market linked to Russia. The concept of "emerging markets," which include the Brazilian, Chinese, Indian, and South Korean capital markets, is well known throughout the world. In 1994 people have begun to include Russia with these countries for the first time and to talk about it as "the last and biggest of the emerging markets."

It would therefore be wrong to say that the potential for attracting foreign investments into Russia has been completely exhausted.

So in what way does Russia continue to attract foreign investors?

During a discussion of this problem at the latest "roundtable" held in the Analytical Center Under the Russian Federation President, experts from state, scientific, and commercial structures gave a virtually unanimous answer.

Foreign companies have finally realized that Russia is one of the biggest world markets with a minimal level of competition. As a site for facilities producing export products we are losing out to our competitors not only in Southeast Asia but also in Eastern Europe because of our unreliable infrastructure, relatively high cost of skilled manpower, and technological backwardness. But as a market we have no equal.

To attract investors we need action in two basic directions.

The first is to insure that it is more advantageous to import capital than to import goods. Importing goods means waging a war of attrition against our national industry; but importing capital means reviving it. The basic measures are a well-considered excise-duty policy and an active policy for the dollar rate of exchange (a possible example is the rise effected in late September and early October). In our conditions an increase in customs tariffs leads not so much to a reduction in commodity imports as to an increase in smuggling and a decline in the quality of imports.

The second avenue for attracting investments is to grant investors concessions for so long as Russia's investment climate remains worse than that of its competitors. These concessions should put foreign investors in conditions as close as possible to those to which they are accustomed.

It must be understood that Russia is acutely in need of foreign investment since it currently lacks sufficient investment resources of its own to overcome the investment crisis. We should not be scared that nobody intends to sell us advanced technologies. That is natural. Let us not forget that Russia's technological backwardness means that technologies which the world regards as obsolete are still advanced in every respect as far as we are concerned.

Let us not forget that foreign investments bring us business culture, a system of market organization, which cost Western civilization decades of sweat and blood to achieve. We can obtain it "ready made" and adapt it in a matter of years to our own national peculiarities.

And finally, foreign investments bring to our economy the competition without which our Russian monopolies

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will wither on the bough and, in complete accordance with Leninist theory, bring our society to the point of social revolution.

It does not need much to activate the mechanism for attracting foreign capital (and likewise Russian capital held in foreign banks or operating in the Western economy). A positive action program should consist of three parts: Legal, informational, and institutional backup for the process of attracting investment. The state should clearly determine the "rules of the game" in those areas from which signals for making investment decisions usually originate—the privatization of enterprises; the right to own property and land; the taxing of income, profit, and investments; and customs regulation.

World experience and international tax and investment law have a number of effective levers which make it possible to create a perfectly favorable situation for investors. These include arrangements for investment tax credits; accelerated amortization; writing off of production prime costs; deregulated duty-free imports of equipment for investment projects; and a number of other measures. The task now is to gradually implement this, a typical system of measures for playing a completely civilized game by the rules of the world capital market.

Russia has an interest in the maximum level of foreign investments (with the exception of individual strategically important sectors and production processes, of course). There will be no justification for fearing an "excessive" inflow of foreign capital in the next 10 years since, given our investment climate, we are not going to be given more than we can chew.

Nuclear & Space Issues

Scientists Create New Nuclear Light-Producing Device

LD2310232894 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1900 GMT 23 Oct 94

[From the "Novosti" newscast; passages with quotation marks are recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] This week the American company Fusion Lighting Incorporated announced that it had built a new lighting device that gives a light like sunlight and is capable of replacing several hundred 175 watt lamps at once. Well, that's great, the more so that the invention will save Americans 8 billion dollars a year.

And suddenly there comes a report from our Russian Arzamas-16, where it turns out that a similar invention, but much more powerful than the American one, could have been patented as far back as 20 years ago. But at that time it was preferred to forget about it, which was a great mistake; we could have been already flying to Mars.

[Aleksandr Tsyryulnikov, Nizhniy Novgorod] "The origin of this fine, luminous circuit, which resembles the filament of an electric lamp, is extraordinary. For the first time in the world it was lighted in one of the laboratories of Arzamas-16, the Russian federal nuclear centre, and the little ray that seems so timid has a really bright future."

[Academician Yu. A. Trutnev] "It is a real technological breakthrough. I think that in the next decades this will be, so to speak, one of the striking trends in nuclear power engineering."

[Tsyryulnikov] "We were allowed to be directly in the experimental zone and to take photographs for no more than 20 minutes because of the radiation background, but both we and the experimenters wanted very much to show how light was produced with the help of a laser that had received the so-called nuclear pumping. In other words, the possibility of creating a light nuclear power station. Let me stress that it is not a thermal power station, not an electric power station, for which light is a subsequent product after the production of thermal and electric energy, but a station that produces light directly."

So it is an artificial sun that has been created?

[A. A. Sinyavskiy, head of lab of experimental physics] "An artificial sun, which means that nuclear energy can be turned directly into a plant product."

[Tsyryulnikov] "Academician Trutnev said that the road to this breakthrough started as far back as the mid-sixties, and in many world scientific centers, and the first success was achieved at the beginning of the seventies. It was only an effect but it equalled a scientific discovery, which was not published in time because of the secret character of the place where it was made. So our Russian priority in the discovery of lasers with direct nuclear pumping was lost. But the discoverers, Voinov and Sinyavskiy and other scientists from Arzamas-16, moved ahead of other researchers, and so 20 years later they were the first to start a nuclear-laser installation of a new type, which we have called a nuclear power station that produces light."

[Trutnev] "It can be used both for long-distance transmission of energy in the form of light, with small losses. Well, it can also be used for communication. You know, it is even difficult to predict, and I will not enumerate now where it can be used. Believe me, it can be used in many fields, and in the near future."

[Tsyryulnikov] "According to Professor George Miley, a very prominent American specialist in this sphere of science, the achievement of the Arzamas-16 scientists could help to solve not only many problems on Earth but in space as well, almost fantastic ones. For instance, in ensuring a flight to Mars and back in 24 hours."

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Mir Flight Crew Takes Over Station

LD2110133994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1225 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Flight Control Centre October 21—The 17th flight crew of the "Mir" orbiting station is taking over the station today. The joint programme includes medical, geophysical and technological experiments.

Aleksandr Viktorenko and Yelena Kondakova, responsible for the geophysical programme, have carried out serial video and spectrometric studies of terrestrial land and water areas. In progress of the studies, Yuriy Malanchenko and Talgat Musabayev trained their colleagues in control of a stabilised platform installed in "Kvant-2" module.

Ulf Merbold, the astronaut of the European Space Agency, and Doctor Valeriy Polyakov, the station's long-time resident, are studying duration-related effects of weightlessness on humans.

Trial of Austrian-made scanning ion miscroscope "migmas" in permanent operation conditions is continuing since October 19. The microscope's emmiter will be sent back to earth for laboratory studies.

The mission is in normal progress, and the astronauts feel well.

Federal Assembly

Duma Adopts Part I of Code on Market Economy

LD2110141994 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Russia's State Duma today adopted Part I of the civil code as a whole. This legislative act, which now has to be examined by the Federation Council, will consist of more than 400 articles.

Vladimir Isakov, chairman of the Duma Committee for Legislation and Judicial Reform, described the code as the "constitution of economic life." This is a law in which the juridical and legal norms of the market economy are enshrined. Isakov believes that this document will to a considerable degree eliminate the administrative economy by which the country has lived for many years.

Duma Rejects 3 Budget Resolution Drafts

LD2110193094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1728 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—The Russian State Duma has made no decision on the Government report about the fulfilment of the 1994 state budget which was delivered by First Vice-Premier Oleg Soskovets. It has rejected three alternative drafts of the Duma resolution offered by various deputy associations.

The draft suggested by the Liberal-democratic, Communist and Agrarian factions, the New Regional Policy Deputy Group and the Russian Way unregistered deputy group was rejected first. The draft described the Government activities to fulfill the 1994 budget as unsatisfactory.

Then the Duma rejected a draft offered by the Choice of Russia, Yabloko and Party of Russian Unity and Accord factions and the December 12 Liberal-Democratic Union that took into account the report of Oleg Soskovets.

The draft appeal of the Agrarian faction to the Russian president was also rejected. The draft noted that the "Russian financial system has reached such a stage when uncontrolled processes of decline have become possible". The Agrarians suggested that the president decides on Government resignation.

Soskovets, Deputy Comment on 'Failure'

MM2410125194 Moscow NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Oct 94 p 1

[Commentary by Yelena Afanasyeva under the "Budget" rubric: "No Money: Oleg Soskovets' Distressing Report"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Rumors were circulating through the Duma's corridors Duma on Friday that First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets would not show to deliver the previously announced government report "On Progress in Implementing the Russian Federation Budget in 1994" in order to avoid putting his head in the noose first or preempting the premier, who was scheduled to appear in the Duma the following Thursday.

But Oleg Soskovets clearly did not see anything in his address to the deputies that could be seen as competing with his immediate boss or taking undue government credit for himself.

We learned the following from the first vice premier's report:

—budget revenue in the payments and taxes section for the first nine months was only 37.3 percent of the annual amount or 35.1 trillion rubles (R);

—other sources of revenue, including foreign currency, produced R14.3 trillion;

—consequently, a total of only 39.7 percent of the revenue side of the budget was collected;

—the shortfall in tax and payments collection was R21.1 trillion or 37 percent;

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—arrears in payments into the budget were R7.8 trillion, plus another trillion not received as a result of breach of Russian Federation legislation by individual components of the federation;

—R95.2 trillion had not been assigned because of the absence of the planned revenue for financing expenditure items, which represents 48.9 percent of the annual figures or, given the prevailing inflation rates which were lower than planned, 60.6 percent.

Put into ordinary language, this means that more than half our expenditure has not been paid for and that whether it will be remains a big question. To date the government itself has resolved which expenditure to finance and what money to withhold, guided in its choice of priorities by "implementation of the key components of the Russian Federation president's Message to the Federal Assembly."

The budget deficit as of 1 October was R45.8 trillion, that is to say more than 65 percent. To cover the deficit the government has employed "inflationary sources—Central Bank credit and that bank's profit to the tune of respectively R34.6 trillion and R1.6 trillion." The deficit is being covered, in addition, by issuing state securities (R5 trillion), foreign loans (R4.6 trillion), and so forth.

Commenting on the first vice premier's speech in the Duma's corridors, Aleksandr Pochinok, deputy chairman of the Duma Budget Committee, described it as a "distressing report."

"There are a lot of gold sales, a lot of settlements are covered by loans, and budget deficit funding, which was one of the causes of Black Tuesday, has increased dramatically," Pochinok said.

In their dissatisfaction with progress in implementing the budget the usually sharply polarized factions in the State Duma were united on this occasion. The first vice premier's explanations did not convince deputies of any leaning. Whether Queen Elizabeth II understood him I do not know, but the Fifth State Duma failed to understand the actions of Soskovets or the government he represents.

Sergey Glazyev, member of the Democratic Party of Russia faction and chairman of the Committee for Economic Policy, considers that despite the large shortfall in receipts for expenditure items which determine the normal life of the country—health care, education, social support—deductions for currency transactions and for certain similar spheres were exceeded by 10 to 12 percent.

"The budget failure is not down to an objective cause but is due to irresponsibility in managing state finances and state property," Glazyev stated, proposing by way of urgent measures the abolition of the unlawful concessions enjoyed by a number of enterprises, the halting of smuggling, the introduction of tax discipline, and the orderly regulation of privatization. All of which was talked about in July.

Neither deputies nor members of the government opposing such measures have been espied to date, but the budget passed with such effort only in the middle of the year has not begun to be implemented any better. No matter how fine a budget the Finance Ministry draws up or how rather less fine a budget is submitted by the government, endorsed by parliament, and signed by the president, the budget ends up being impossible to implement. Why this is so is a rhetorical question.

Five official opposition factions (the Communists, the Agrarians, the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia, Russia's Path (Rossiyskiy Put), and New Regional Policy) introduced a draft decree proposing that the government's activity in implementing the budget be deemed unsatisfactory and that the Cabinet be given a five-day deadline to submit a report on the results of check privatization and postcheck privatization in the August-September period, and also proposing a program of measures to find extra sources of budget revenue by abolishing individual concessions on excise and tax payments and tightening up tax discipline.

But the various factions' discontent with one another proved stronger than the general discontent with the budget implementation. As a result not one of the proposed decisions was passed. The discussion in the Duma changed nothing. Clearly, the Duma's business is merely to discuss the budgets, while their implemention or, more precisely, nonimplemention is the government's prerogative.

Shokhin Links Budget Vote to Economic Confidence

LD2210165794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1549 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The State Duma's vote on a draft budget for 1995 will be a vote on confidence in the economic policy of the Russian government, Deputy Prime Minister, Economics Minister Aleksandr Shokhin told Interfax Saturday.

According to Shokhin, the government "did the right thing not letting to be tempted by the possibility to submit to the State Duma a draft budget for 1995 satisfying opposition lobbyist faction and not making reshuffles."

Shokhin said that the October 11 ruble's crash on the currency exchange "even strengthened the government's point of view that a more radical way must be followed and a budget oriented on the financial and economic stabilization must be proposed."

Shokhin said the government "did not pay attention" to the opposition's intention to raise confidence in it in

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parliament. He pointed out that the government hoped for support by democratic factions in the State Duma.

Duma Moves To Reform Treaty Process

MK2110113094 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 21 Oct 94 p 2

[Report by Sergey Tsekhmistrenko: "Deputies Want To Partake of the Friendship of Peoples"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Struggle in the upper echelons of power in Russia can sometimes proceed around unexpected questions: for instance, ratification of international treaties. In the very near future this issue could cause a clash of interests between the State Duma, the Federation Council, and the president. Up till now, Boris Yeltsin decided which treaties to send to the lower house. But this practice does not suit the Duma deputies, who want to have a real influence formulating the country's foreign policy and foreign economic course. So far they have to make do with lesser things—yesterday, for instance, the State Duma's international affairs committee discussed "merely" a treaty on trade with Austria—but major changes are just around the corner. This week the conciliation commission will begin work to overcome differences between the houses over the text of the law "On International Treaties of the Russian Federation."

In line with the letter of the Fundamental Law, the Federation Council considers laws on ratification and denunciation of international treaties adopted by the State Duma. The Constitution, however, says nothing about which treaties the lower house may consider. In an effort to resolve this juridical snag, in July the Duma passed a special law but it was not confirmed by the upper house. According to most experts, it will be narrowly approved by the president.

What is it that the senators are so unhappy about? Their opinion, presented in three documents at once—a message by speaker Vladimir Shumeyko and statements by the Legal Affairs Directorate and the Federation Council International Affairs Committee—boils down to the following: The law does not fully take into account the interests of the Federation components in preparing and signing treaties that come under their jurisdiction, including the obligatory coordination of treaty provisions with the regions. According to Vladimir Trofimov, doctor of law and the Duma International Affairs Committee's chief of staff, the Federation Council insists on much tougher—compared to the Duma—procedures for coordinating treaties with the federal executive branch. The house deputies also believe that representatives of Federation components are simply obliged personally to be present during the signing of treaties, which can hypothetically lead to a situation wherein delegations going off to the ceremony will include nearly a hundred people, not just one duly authorized diplomat.

These disagreements, however, according to Trofimov, are quite possible to overcome, which is more than can be said, for instance, about the differences in the views of parliament and Boris Yeltsin. The fact at present is that a unique pattern of international treaty ratification has emerged in Russia: The only treaties discussed are those submitted to the State Duma by the president. As a result, parliamentarians were recently excluded from discussions on treaties that affect national legislation, although this is provided for by the union law on ratification which is still in effect. A whole series of treaties on safe transit and the destruction of mass annihilation weapons, and a number of agreements with the United States, Japan, Italy, France, and the FRG—which, according to Trofimov, grant colossal privileges to these countries—have bypassed the Duma. The same could be said about Russia's accession at the end of last year to the missile technology nonproliferation control regime. Further, the executive branch failed to advise the legislative branch if any loans have been extended to Russia's creditors with natural resources as collateral. The government has been responding to the deputies' repeated queries with enigmatic silence. Because of the proposed law, all such treaties are subject to obligatory ratification; Yeltsin, not wishing to limit the sphere of his foreign policy prerogatives, will most likely use his veto power. But the State Duma is in a decisive mood: More than once it has overridden the president's and the Federation Council's "no." The deputies have no doubt that this time around they will manage to produce the requisite two-thirds vote. And then, should the law be approved by the upper house, the president will be faced with a rather unpleasant choice: either, in line with the Constitution, he will have to affix his signature to the parliament's decision within a week's time, or—which is no less likely—violate the Fundamental Law.

[Article is accompanied by following boxed passage]

Ratification of Russian International Treaties

Some Russian international treaties are subject to ratification under the law proposed by the Duma whose execution calls for revising current federal laws or adopting new ones; on territorial demarcation of Russia with other states; on matters affecting Russia's defense capability, disarmament, international arms control, peace treaties, and collective security treaties; on Russia's participation in international unions, international organizations, and other associations if these treaties provide for the transfer to such of part of Russia's jurisdiction or the joint jurisdiction of the Federation and Federation components; on extending or acquiring state loans or credits and providing government guarantees if

a) the sum of funds to be received or granted under the treaty exceeds $100 million;

b) the implementation of such treaties calls for an increase in the limit of Russia's state foreign borrowings or the limit of Russia's state credits to foreign states;

c) the treaty provides for mortgaging or expatriating Russian natural resources, federal real estate, or valuables which are the property of Russia.

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Duma Ratifies Agreements on Migrant Rights

LD2110152294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1411 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—The Russian State Duma has ratified today a number of agreements between the Russian Federation and the states, former republics of the Soviet Union, concerning the regulation of the process of resettlement and defense of migrants' rights.

The documents ratified by the State Duma include the "Agreement Between the Russian Federation and Turkmenistan on Regulation of Dual Citizenship Issues", "Agreement Between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Estonian Republic on the Assistance to Persons who Migrate from Russia to Estonia and from Estonia to Russia", as well as agreements between the government of the Russian Federation and the governments of the Republic of Georgia and the Republic of Latvia on regulation of the process of migration and defense of migrants' rights. Similar agreements between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan and Turkmenistan were also ratified.

Regional Affairs

Bomb Explodes at Khasbulatov Chechen Headquarters

LD2410105994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1006 GMT 24 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 24 Oct—An act of sabotage was committed yesterday, Sunday [23 October], in the settlement of Tolstoy-Yurt (Chechnya), where Ruslan Khasbulatov's mediation group has its headquarters. Adnan Khattuyev, the head of the group's press service, told ITAR-TASS today that a car bomb exploded 30 meters from the building where a meeting of elders and Muslim clergymen was being held. A number of people were injured.

The meeting, which was attended by about 500 elders and clergymen (Alims), decided to recall all clan members serving with Dudayev's units. According to the head of the press service, the participants in the meeting demanded the immediate resignation of Dzhokhar Dudayev.

Khasbulatov Not To Leave Before Dudayev

LD2110205394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1915 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Former speaker of the Russian parliament, now leader of the "peacemaking group" in Chechnya Ruslan Khasbulatov said he would not leave the republic until the Dzhokhar Dudayev regime was overthrown. Khasbulatov was speaking at a rally held by his supporters in the village of Tolstoy-Yurt where the headquarters of his peacemaking group are situated.

The press service of Khasbulatov's group told Interfax that the rally had been organized in response to rumors that Khasbulatov was going to leave Chechnya. The same source said that such rumors had been launched by Groznyy television.

The press service said inhabitants of the Gudermes, Shalin and Urus-Martan regions and the city of Argun had taken part in the rally.

Duma Deputies Tour Chechnya, Blame Conflict on Yeltsin

MK2110112594 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 21 Oct 94 p 3

[Report by Dmitriy Kamyshev: "Situation in Chechnya. Deputies Bring Back From Chechnya Criticism Aimed at President"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Russian parliamentarians too seem to be finding it somewhat hard to analyze the developments in Chechnya that average Russian citizens find hard to comprehend. At any rate, the State Duma deputies who gave account in yesterday's press conference in Moscow of the results of their brief trip to Chechnya spoke mostly about the president, government, and Sergey Shakhray—something closer to them and which they understand better.

The State Duma delegation of three men—representatives of the LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] and the Communist Party—set off for Chechnya 18 October in order, as the deputies said, to get "first-hand" information and to see what is really happening in Chechnya. Since the first person to provide "first-hand" information happened to be Ruslan Khasbulatov, whose headquarters in Tolstoy-Yurt the deputies visited first, the view they came away with differs little from the view of the former Russian Supreme Soviet speaker, one would have thought.

But then, well-known LDPR deputy Vyacheslav Marychev, a member of the delegation, did not say much about what is happening in Chechnya. He thought that what is happening in Moscow merited much more attention. First, he lashed out at the government's chief "Chechenologist," Vice Premier Sergey Shakhray, whose "aggressive" programs, according to Marychev, have led to an escalation of the conflict in the republic. Next, the deputy criticized the entire government, which has salted away 150 billion rubles intended for "our" Chechens, and promised to bring up this fact in discussing the question of confidence in the government. Finally, critical arrows reached the president: it is Yeltsin, deputy Marychev thinks, who has created an "independent

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Chechnya" through his legendary "take as much sovereignty as you can swallow" call.

In addition to information gathering, the Russian deputies hoped to promote the peacekeeping process. True, the latter went off worst of all: The day following the Duma men's arrival, Dzhokhar Dudayev marched his troops on Urus-Martan. Incidentally, it is still rather hard to draw any conclusions about the battle because both sides claim victory and huge losses in men and equipment among their enemy. A considerable number of dead on both sides is perhaps the only thing not to be doubted. The opposition has stated that nearly 50 civilians and fighters died, and one can judge about the number of dead among Dudayev's supporters (so far officially unnamed) at least from the fact that the Central Military Hospital in Groznyy has asked the population to contribute medicine and dressings.

Further Reportage on Situation in Chechnya

Opposition Executes Dudayev Associates

LD2310151694 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] RIA reports that there were no clashes in Chechnya overnight or this morning between the opposition and Dzhokhar Dudayev's subunits. According to the interim council press center, the opposition forces are engaged in military maneuvers in preparation for the storming of Groznyy. According to information from the same source, opposition forces have executed by firing squad Shamil Basayev and Ruslan Gelayev, close associates of Dzhokhar Dudayev, who were captured in Urus-Martan.

RIA reports that the first and second channels of Russian Television are functioning in Chechnya. The opposition have organized broadcasts by what is termed an alternative channel.

No Fighting Reported 22 Oct Evening

LD2210130594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1251 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—No clashes between opposition and government troops were registered in Chechnya last night, Ruslan Martagov, head of the press centre of the Chechen provisional council, told ITAR-TASS.

After the defeat near the village of Ken-Yurt on Thursday night, when the opposition units destroyed two posts of the government troops, additional forces of Dudayev's supporters—200 troops, six armoured vehicles and three heavy artillery pieces—were moved to the Pervomaiskiy village from Groznyy.

The situation in the area of the village of Tolstoy-Yurt—the seat of the headquarters of Khasbulatov's peacekeeping group—was not aggravated either, ITAR-TASS learned from his press service. A massive rally was held there on Friday night, whose participants spoke in favour of the early overthrow of the Dudayev regime. Khasbulatov also addressed the rally, thus refuting allegations of the Groznyy officials that he had fled from the republic. He said he was not going to leave Chechnya.

According to the coming reports, Groznyy TV is broadcasting appeals to the population to donate their blood to the wounded and to bring in medical supplies. All hospitals in the Chechen capital are overcrowded with the wounded. Because of a shortage of hospitals, they were even accommodated at maternity homes.

Opposition Wipes Out Posts at Ken-Yurt

LD2110121094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1149 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Two military posts of Dzhokhar Dudayev's forces were wiped out by joint opposition detachments in the course of a night-time battle near the village of Ken-Yurt, in the Nadterechnyy District of the Chechen Republic.

"Casualties were inflicted on Dudayev's troops during the clash, but their exact number is so far unknown," ITAR-TASS was told by Ruslan Martagov, head of the Chechen Provisional Council's press centre. "Moreover," Martagov noted, "the opposition troops knocked out a long-range artillery gun and captured a grenade thrower during the attack on the posts, which were defended by about fifty men."

According to Martagov, one opposition fighter was wounded during the battle near Ken-Yurt, which continued from 23.30 on October 20 to 2.00 on October 21. It is now quiet in the battle area. There is a drizzle in Znamenskoye and the weather is cold.

According to varified information furnished to ITAR-TASS by the Provisional Council's press centre, Dudayev's troops had lost 110 men killed during the Urus-Martan battle, including the commanders of practically all the government detachments.

"In addition to that," Martagov stated, "Dudayev has lost five T- 72 tanks. The Provisional Council is still not aware where Dudayev had obtained these absolutely new machines."

The situation has not aggravated so far in the area of Tolstoy- Yurt, where the headquarters of Ruslan Khasbulatov's peace-making team are located.

Ukraine Nationalists Publish Secret Plan

AU2110132594 Kiev UKRAYINSKI OBRIYI in Ukrainian No. 12 (43) p 1

["Excerpts from a joint meeting of the Main Intelligence Directorate and the Federal Counterintelligence Service

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on 16 June 94" entitled: "With the Help of Cholera and Blood, Russian Special Services Want To Restore the Empire"—first paragraph published in Ukrainian, remainder in Russian[

[FBIS Translated Text] The following document was brought from Groznyy [in Chechnya] by People's Deputy Yuriy Tyma, representing UNA-UNSO [Ukrainian Nationalist Assembly-Ukrainian National Self-Defense], and Anatoliy Lupynis, head of the UNA Political Department.

Top Secret

Excerpts from a joint meeting of the Main Intelligence Directorate and the Federal Counterintelligence Service on 16 June 94.

Report....."On the Situation in Southern Russia, in particular in Chechnya."

...The delay in resolving the problem of Chechnya may have catastrophic consequences for Russia.... It is time to complete the localization of the conflict in that region. Preparatory work has been completed. Our troops have been deployed along the entire perimeter of the Chechen Republic's administrative border. They are being brought to combat readiness to deal with the case if neighboring republics try to provide assistance [to Chechnya] and if Chechens move outside the republic.

Instructions have been given to seize, by the middle of September 1994, four major populated areas and to block the approaches to Groznyy. The variant with cholera in Dagestan is still in force. By the end of September, it is necessary to complete blocking approaches to the border from Dagestan.

Everything is proceeding according to schedule. We are now moving to the last cycle of the first stage.

The blocking of rayons must be a priority task with the deployment of all anti-Dudayev groupings. Here, we are acting in two directions—bringing up forces, while remaining observers, gathering information, and supervising SMI [expansion not known] and agitators....

Officers and soldiers are categorically prohibited from doing any harm to women, children, or old people, especially in the first stage....

In the event of an offensive waged by the opposition, it is necessary to let it be defeated. This will make it possible for the Provisional Council to appeal to us. Assistance must be rendered to the Council only after the third appeal. It will be a justification for the population of the Chechen Republic [ChIR] and for the world community.

We will provide assistance in accordance with the established procedure and timetable. The troops—groupings will be reinforced by our officers and soldiers. At the same time, we recommend using weapons that local groupings are unfamiliar with, which will make it possible for us to strengthen our army in Chechnya numerically and qualitatively and to take the situation under our control (it is a crucial moment).

Then it is necessary to get rid of what remains of Dudayev and the anti-Dudayev groupings. Primarily the leaders—[Ruslan] Labazanov [leader of "Free Party of Justice"], [Beslan] Gantemirov [former mayor of Groznyy], and so on.

In the first stage, it is necessary to get rid of all the recalcitrant individuals stage by stage, primarily young people and old people....

Further instructions will be given in September 1994 after the completion of the second cycle....

Opposition Plans Unarmed March

LD2310093694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0737 GMT 23 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspndent Sharip Asuyev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Groznyy, 23 Oct—The situation in Chechnya remains in a state of dynamic balance, broken now and again by local skirmishes in the areas where pro- and anti-Dudayev forces are directly confronting each other. A gathering of the inhabitants of Urus-Martanovskiy Rayon is planned for today. It is presumed that a decision will be made at it for an unarmed march on Groznyy to demand Dzhokhar Dudayev's resignation. This will clearly be the final step before the decisive storming of the city by armed opposition units.

Chechnya's elders and religious authorities are gathering in the settlement of Tolstoy-Yurt today at the request of Ruslan Khasbulatov. They will probably also decide to make a final proposal for the president to leave his post without bloodshed.

Dudayev Supporters Continue Rally

LD2210163294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1459 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dzhokhar Dudayev's supporters continue their rally in the central square of Chechnya's capital and join volunteer units.

As INTERFAX learned from the official CHECHEN-PRESS agency on Saturday, in the week that passed since the opposition units had staged their raid on Groznyy, several thousands of volunteers signed up. According to INTERFAX's source, "many come with their own weapons, others get armed after signing up; there are men who are ready to go to fight barehanded in the hope of getting trophies."

According to the information available to INTERFAX, the victims of clashes that took place on Wednesday

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between the supporters and opponents of Jokhar Dudayev in Urus-Martan District were buried on Friday.

Fire Causes Explosions at Airborne Troops Base

LD2310164794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1620 GMT 23 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Vlasov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Pskov, 23 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—Splinters from artillery shells hit villages situated near a testing range of the airborne assault troops. A violent fire broke out today at one of the storage depots here. Seven combat vehicles containing a full combat load of shells and grenades were in the depot and when the fire reached them, a series of explosions occurred.

A commission from the headquarters of the airborne assault troops in Moscow is investigating the causes of the incident. There have been no reports of casualties so far.

ITAR-TASS Clarifies Report

LD2310194494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1923 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 23 TASS—The unexploded shells that survived a fire in artillery depots belonging to a Russian airborne division in the Pskov region on October 20 were destroyed on the division's testing range on Sunday, the Ministry for Emergency Situations said.

The Pskov region's civil defence authorities told ITAR-TASS that the operation involved 200 military engineers and 160 soldiers who sealed off the area.

As a result of the October 20 fire, three people were killed and seven wounded. The fire broke out at the division's artillery depot nine kilometers from the city of Pskov in northwestern Russia.

Military sources said the depot was overstocked with shells and fuel withdrawn from the Baltic states.

No. Ossetian President Meets With Army Commander

LD2110224394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1613 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Vladikavkaz, 21 October—On 21 October, Askharbek Galazov, president of North Ossetia, met Col-Gen Anatoliy Kulikov, Russian deputy interior minister and commanding officer of Russian interior ministry troops, in Vladikavkaz to discuss the state of emergency zone in the republic and the return of refugees to four villages in Prigorodnyy district.

The Russian deputy minister said he was heartened by the recent rapprochement between North Ossetia and Ingushetia, and stressed that their differences can only be resolved through negotiation.

President Galazov also chaired a meeting of the North Ossetia government, which looked at various issues and in particular implementation of the Russian Federation President's edict on state aid to North Ossetia to the year 2000.

Grachev Says Troops To Remain in Kurils

LD2410120494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1123 GMT 24 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Belovitskiy]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, 24 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—"Russian troops have been, are, and will remain in the Kurils," Russian Federation Defense Minister Pavel Grachev stated categorically today in answer to journalists' questions after arriving in Sakhalin.

The minister stressed that special attention is devoted to the Far Eastern military district and the Pacific Fleet within the system for ensuring Russia's security.

The aim of the defense minister's trip to the Far East is to study the lives and living conditions of personnel and to study their moral and psychological condition. Pavel Grachev said he intends to report to the State Duma on the results of the visit.

Tomorrow Army General Pavel Grachev plans to visit the South Kurils, which were hit by an earthquake at the beginning of October.

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International Affairs

UN Representative Speaks on Nuclear Disarmament

LD2210190294 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The sittings of the main committees of the 49th UN General Assembly are continuing in New York. Volodymyr Khandohiy, Ukraine's representative, spoke in the course of discussion at the first committee. He emphasized that our state's policy in the sphere of armament and disarmament control is directed above all at ensuring its national security. Ukraine is disposing of nuclear weapons and therefore has the right to receive reliable security guarantees from nuclear states, Mr. Khandohiy stressed.

Kuchma Comments on Talks With Yeltsin

LD2210143994 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1400 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President of Ukraine Leonid Kuchma, who has returned to Kiev from Moscow, has given some details on his talks with Russian President Boris Yeltsin in the Russian capital yesterday.

In particular, ITAR-TASS reported, quoting the Ukrainian president, during the talks the two heads of state shelved the dual citizenship issue. In addition, Russia agreed to give Ukraine a deferment of between three and seven years on its debts. The main thing is that there should be a precise mechanism for paying them off.

The Ukrainian president also said it was agreed that Boris Yeltsin's official visit to Ukraine will take place before Leonid Kuchma's departure on a visit to the USA, scheduled for late November.

Kuchma Departs for Ireland, Canada

Meets Irish Leader

LD2310084194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0705 GMT 23 Oct 94

[By UKRINFORM special correspondent Viktor Chamara for ITAR-TASS]

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev, 23 Oct— Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma left today for a state visit to Canada. During the forthcoming meetings and talks it is expected that the Ukrainian-Canadian treaty on friendship and cooperation, agreement on assistance and mutual protection of investments, and a number of other agreements aimed at expanding cooperation between Ukraine and Canada in the economic, trade, and military fields will be signed.

Leonid Kuchma will have a meeting with Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien, leaders of the Canadian parliament, representatives of business circles, and the Ukrainian community in Canada.

On the way to Canada the Ukrainian president, who is on his first foreign visit as head of state, will make a stopover for two hours at Shannon airport (Ireland) where a meeting and talks with Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds will take place.

Closer Relations Discussed

LD2310173294 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] As we have already reported, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has left on a state visit to Ottawa today. On the way to Canada, the presidential plane stopped at Shannon airport. Here is Vasyl Birzov, Radio Ukraine's special correspondent:

[Birzov] On the way to Canada, the presidential plane landed in Ireland. At Shannon airport, Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds greeted the president of Ukraine, his wife, and members of the official delegation.

During the meeting between Kuchma and the head of the Irish Government, most attention was paid to deepening bilateral relations between our countries. On our side, it was stated that there were no political problems between Ukraine and Ireland that would hinder the development of Ukrainian-Irish relations in the trade, economic, cultural, and other spheres.

We already have the first results of such cooperation. In particular, Irish enterprises are reconstructing Borispol airport, and the Air Ukraine International airline is operating successfully with the participation of Irish capital. It is evident, however, that this is not enough and that there are many other possibilities, that must be utilized.

The president of Ukraine expressed the hope that these talks in Shannon will serve to intensify our relations, including economic ones. Kuchma informed Reynolds of the situation in Ukraine and the first steps in reforming the Ukrainian economy. In addition, the president expressed his position with regard to Ukraine's accession to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and confirmed Ukraine's non-nuclear status. But, Kuchma emphasized, we should have certain guarantees of nuclear security.

Kuchma asked the prime minister to influence Ireland's parliament so that it ratifies more quickly the agreement on economic cooperation between Ukraine and the European Union.

Valeriy Shmarov, deputy prime minister and defense minister of Ukraine, Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadiy Udovenko, Economy Minister Roman Shpek, and Foreign Economic Relations Minister Serhiy Osyka took part in the conversation.

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From Shannon airport, the Il-62 plane headed for Ottawa.

Confirms Plans To Join NPT

LD2310143694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1423 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma confirmed the plan "to bring the process of Ukraine's joining the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons to its logical end."

He made such a statement during the talks on Sunday [23 October] with Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds during his stop-over in the Irish airport of Shannon, en route to Canada where he is going for an official visit.

Kuchma told Reynolds that he had sent a document on the joining of the Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] to the Ukrainian parliament.

He also said that his team was working hard to accelerate the implementation of the plan.

Kuchma urged Reynolds to accelerate the ratification of the partnership agreement between Ukraine and the European Union which will go into effect only after its ratification by the parliaments of all of the European Union's member-states.

He said there were positive moments in Ukrainian-Irish relations. Irish companies were rebuilding Kiev's Borispol airport, and a Ukrainian-Irish joint venture, the Ukrainian International Airlines, with a statutory capital of $115 million has been set up.

Kuchma and Reynolds expressed hope that Ukrainian-Irish relations would develop more dynamically.

National Affairs

Members of National Security Council Named

LD2310095094 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2245 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev, 22 Oct—By his decree Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma approved members of the National Security Council and members of the council's presidium under the president of Ukraine. President Leonid Kuchma, Prime Minister Vitaliy Masol, National Space Agency Director Volodymyr Horbulin, Deputy Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk, responsible for issues of security and organized crime prevention, Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov, president's administration Chairman Dmytro Tabachnyk, Finance Minister Petro Hermanchuk, Environment Minister Yuriy Kostenko, Security Service Chairman Volodymyr Malikov, Justice Minister Vasyl Onopenko, External Economic Relations Minister Serhiy Osyka, Machine-building, Military-industrial complex and Conversion Minister Viktor Petrov, Internal Affairs Minister Volodymyr Radchenko, Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadiy Udovenko, Economics Minister Roman Shpek, and Nationalities, Migration and Cults Minister Oleksandr Shulga are members of the National Security Council.

Leonid Kuchma, Vitaliy Masol, Volodymyr Horbulin, Yevhen Marchuk, and Valeriy Shmarov are members of the National Security Council Presidium under the president of Ukraine.

Kuchma Approves Membership

LD2210143494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1415 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By UKRINFORM for TASS]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev October 22 TASS—A decree of Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma was signed here today to specify membership of the National Security Council.

The council headed by the president has 16 members, including Prime Minister Vitaliy Masol, Vice-Premier Yevgeniy Marchuk, Defence Minister Valeriy Shmarov and Presidential Adviser for National Security, Secretary of the Council Vladimir Gorbulin.

Kuchma Appoints, Replaces Officials

AU2010120494

[FBIS Editorial report] URYADOVYY KURYER on 18 October on page 3 carries a section "Ukrainian Presidential Edicts" signed in Kiev by Ukrainian President L. Kuchma on appointing and dismissing officials.

On 14 October 1994, Valeriy Ivanovych Samoplavskyy was dismissed from the post of Ukraine's first vice prime minister and appointed Ukraine's minister of forestry;

Dmytro Hnatovych Vydrin was appointed as Ukrainian presidential adviser for issues of internal policy;

Anatoliy Viktorovych Kolos was dismissed from the post of chairman of Ukraine's State Customs Committee in connection with his transfer to another job;

Eduard Anatoliyovych Miroshnychenko was appointed as acting chairman of Ukraine's State Customs Committee;

Andriy Mykhaylovych Serdyuk was appointed as Ukraine's first deputy minister of health;

On 15 October 1994, Valeriy Oleksandrovych Hubenko was dismissed from the post of chairman of the State Committee for Issues of Defense of Ukraine's State Border and replaced by acting chairman Viktor Ivanovych Bannykh.

Kuchma Addresses Congress of Judges

LD2110123794 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1910 GMT 20 Oct 94

[Speech by President Leonid Kuchma to the second congress of Ukraine's judges on 20 October—recorded]

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[FBIS Translated Text] Your congress has assembled the people who represent the third power that I firmly believe must be equal to both the legislative and executive powers de facto, which must play the most important role in developing a truly democratic and law-governed state, become a reliable guarantor of the abidance by human rights and freedoms in Ukraine, and ensure civic peace and accord in society.

Proceeding from the above attitude to the judicial branch of power, I will dwell in greater detail on certain issues of utmost importance to Ukraine that require our concerted efforts to resolve them.

First of all, I will dwell on yesterday's discussion in parliament of the president's report on the main principles of the economic and social policy and my appeal to the Supreme Council deputies to consolidate efforts for the implementation of the radical economic reforms. In connection with this I would like to point out the following:

In my opinion, the above discussion, putting relevant political passions aside, was constructive and balanced. It showed that our deputy corps is mature enough and capable of taking responsible decisions on the most complicated issues of state life.

I am convinced that the adopted decision, which supports the president's economic policy, will significantly contribute to the consolidation of society, which our country needs so much to survive. I would say quite sincerely that I did not count on an unambiguous support to the announced course of the new economic policy. Various political forces are represented in parliament and it is quite natural that the opinions on the implementation of exceptionally complicated economic issues, which we inherited and which we have to resolve under any circumstances, turned out to be diverse and in some cases even contradictory. The fact that virtually all deputies were unanimous in assessing the state of our economy as catastrophic and recognizing the fact that joint resolute actions were needed to overcome it, evokes satisfaction.

In connection with this, I would like to say that absolutely all the constructive proposals by deputies that comply with the logic of the new economic and social policy of the president will be taken into account when drawing up specific mechanisms and relevant enforceable enactments. None of these proposals will remain beyond attention.

Since the first days of my presidency I have been abiding by the consolidation of actions of the legislative and executive powers, all the political forces in society, and I would like to say with full responsibility that I will continue doing everything possible to preserve such a combination. I am not simplifying this problem. I am well aware of the fact that the views on ways of fulfilling various tasks are different and will certainly remain different. However, if enough constructiveness, wisdom, and state will is displayed by relevant structures, the above differences can be coordinated. Meanwhile, I was already emphasizing this and I would like to emphasize this today too: there exists a single objective platform on which our actions can be united—this is consolidation on way toward searching for the most effective ways of implementing radical economic reforms.

This is exactly how I assess the course of the discussion of the president's appeal and the Supreme Council decision. There should be consolidation for the sake of reforms. Reforms are the only way to survival. I again repeat the words that I pronounced at the Supreme Council session and that emphasize the essence of my vision of the content of our consolidation.

Now, I would like to dwell on certain aspects of the discussion. The first thing I would like to stress—and I am glad that this thought was clearly expressed in the speeches by a whole number of deputies—is the provision stipulating that the abyss our economy found itself in resulted not from reforms but from their actual absence. It resulted from the 3-year-long twaddling about the reform. I am convinced that people are well aware of this and will not let anyone mislead themselves as far as this issue is concerned.

Second, the stand by a certain group of people's deputies who believe that it is necessary first to stabilize economy by administrative methods and then begin reforming it, does not take into account the objective state of our economy and the deep financial crisis in the state. I said this in my report and I would not like to repeat myself. Our internal reserves of survival have been completely exhausted. Under such conditions new attempts of administering just consolidate the shadow capital. This is a road to nowhere. I will not embark on this road. This is the road to complete suicide. This is an empty phrase that has nothing constructive behind it. I would like to ask the proponents of such an idea to take into account this stand of fundamental importance. I repeat that the only means of stabilization is the implementation of radical reforms. We have no alternative today. And this is why I would like to strongly emphasize it again: I will never agree to anything different. There will be no return to the detrimental and destructive administrative economy, although the above-mentioned does not rule out the consolidation of the state's civilized, regulating role in economic life.

The third issue deals with land reform. I am glad that Oleksandr Moroz made a statement to show his understanding of the fact that this central issue—as I pointed out in my address to parliament—is not just to reform the agrarian sector but to carry out a comprehensive market transformation of the economy. Also, I perceived with satisfaction his statement to the effect that the main issues of the agrarian reform, substantiated in the president's report, are already regulated by the current legislation, in particular, by the Land Code currently in force. This means that the president does not go beyond the

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framework of law as far as this key issue is concerned. This statement is exceptionally important for the executive power. I am grateful to the Supreme Council chairman for this. This gives us grounds for energetic actions, and we will act correspondingly.

Fourth. Almost all the speakers were unanimous as far as the issue of the necessity of introducing a rigid vertical structure of executive power is concerned. Without this, hopes for a success of the set tasks should be abandoned. This is why I again appeal to the Supreme Council to act jointly as far as this issue is concerned.

The issue of consolidating the personnel potential has special importance. Today, like never before, we need concerted actions of not only the power structures and political parties, but of people, reformers, those who, regardless of their political views, understand that the state can be saved only by prompt and resolute actions. I hold out my hand and call on everybody for cooperation; I hope for relevant support. We all need this; our people need this; Ukraine needs this most of all.

The discussion of the president's report in parliament is important to me also because it became clearer what forces I can lean on and who I can expect support from in my actions. I felt and I feel that this support is vast enough. It is sufficient to achieve, under any circumstances, positive results in attaining the set objectives.

Speaking at the Supreme Council I emphasized that I understood the scale of developments which would take place in society in connection with the new economic policy, the weight of responsibility which I personally assume. But at the same time, I assure you that the radical economic and political transformations that the president has begun to implement, have only one aim—to create real conditions for raising the well-being of our compatriots, to act so that their life be worthy and well provided for. It is for this sake, first and foremost, that I appeal to you, too, esteemed representatives of the corps of judges of Ukraine.

Today, our compatriots are suffering not just from impoverishment and misery; they are often unprotected against the arbitrariness of the director of an enterprise where they work, they cannot influence the municipal bureaucrats who do not provide them with required heating, electricity and public transport. Often enough people are rightless in the face of the leaders of local bodies of power. In search for justice the majority of them appeal to the higher state authorities. However, a significant part of these problems can and must be resolved in courts of justice. This is why the first thing I count on is support by the judicial power in protecting the rights of our compatriots, establishing elementary order in society. Every one of our compatriots should know that if they feel that their rights and freedoms are infringed upon, they can appeal to a court of justice, which will help restore legality and justice.

At this point I cannot but draw your attention to the fact that courts of justice often fail to protect people legally and treat them justly.

One in every seven civil cases is considered in violation of the procedural terms. There are numerous instances when such cases are considered by courts of justice for years. In Sosnovskiy rayon court of justice, in the town of Cherkassy, one in every five solved civil cases is considered within the term of one-six years. And such instances occur in the majority of oblasts of Ukraine.

Preparing myself for participation in your congress I was informed about the dreadful instances of red tape during the consideration of criminal cases by courts of justice. Suffice it to say that by 1 June this year, 245 persons, whose cases were not considered by courts of justice for over 18 months, had been remanded in custody. There are examples when it takes five-six years to announce a verdict.

As far as civil disputes are concerned, which deal with the violation of labor, and housing rights, and interests of citizens, courts of justice almost never respond by making interlocutory decisions on the causes and conditions which led to violations of law. A possibility of compensating for the losses inflicted by criminals has not been ensured properly. It is clear that such regrettable flaws evoke people's indignation and discredit the state power as a whole. People lose their faith in a possibility to find justice in our society. We do not have any right to accept such a situation. I hope that this problem will become a subject of analysis for the higher judicial bodies and your congress. Possibilities to step up the effectiveness of judges' work will be found.

The second problem is that in proposing a new socioeconomic policy I emphasize the necessity of speeding up the process of nation building, carrying out in-depth political transformation and in practice delimiting powers. Unfortunately, there is every reason to believe that the development of Ukraine's judiciary authorities is considerably lagging behind that of executive and legislative power. Because of this, there are objective difficulties in the process of actually distributing powers between the president and the parliament, local state administration, and self-government authorities. The regulation of the considerable volume of social relations is carried out mainly by government influence rather than by a judicial procedure.

So what are the steps that could speed up the process of establishing fully fledged judiciary authorities?

First, this is completing the stage of scientific and theoretical comprehension of judicial and legal reform, and judicial system reconstruction begun by the first congress of judges as long ago as December 1991.

In April 1992, the Supreme Council approved a concept of judicial and legal reform and passed a number of laws for this concept to materialize. Even now, there is nevertheless no single approach to a model of judicial reform. I shall not play the part of an arbiter in determining the best option of its improvement. Let experts work on this. I believe, however, that this problem will

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become a major one under consideration by your congress. I also believe that a common language should be found as a matter of urgency and the option made should be put into practice within the shortest possible time.

Second, judiciary authorities have to actively participate in the constitutional process. My proposal on the equal participation in the constitutional commission of all three branches of power has had only some support. The judiciary at the same time is represented there and has to energetically encourage drawing up a new constitution quickly. The practice adopted previously demonstrates that we shall not be able to avoid fruitless competition between various branches of power, complete the establishment of an effective executive system, or ensure the civilized management of the processes under way in society without resolving a number of nation-building problems at constitutional level.

In view of the above and because of certain lengthiness in preparing a new constitution, the president is making ready and will submit for the Supreme Council's consideration a constitutional law on authorities, which law is to ensure the stability and effectiveness of activity by the state in the transitional period until the passage of a new constitution. I hope that you will understand and support this initiative.

Without a new constitution being passed, it is impossible to settle the major issues that are part of the judicial reform—forming an independent judiciary, reconstructing the judicial system, creating a new legislation, and improving legal procedures, which would most fully guarantee the citizens' right to legal protection, with the main, fundamental problem to be resolved in the constitution being the establishment of the principle of the independence of courts of law and its safeguards. Even the constitution of the former Soviet Union, by the way, had this provision. It is also contained in Ukraine's current constitution but, as they say, mainly only on paper.

The real guarantees of judges' independence are their immunity; the proper level of their material, financial, and social security; their appointment or election for a long term; and their effective protection from interference in legal duties discharged by them. These guarantees have been tested worldwide and the president backs their reflection in Ukraine's new constitution.

The president realizes that the establishment of judiciary authorities without the formation of a constitutional court cannot be considered complete.

Given, however, that the old constitution, suffering from several discrepancies of principle, is still in force under the conditions of continuing nation-building, with many issues at the stage of settlement, there are grounds to believe that the formation of this court is premature. We believe that it makes sense to elect the constitutional court right after passing Ukraine's new constitution.

The renewal of the Ukrainian state's legal basis also requires a more active participation by judiciary authorities. It particularly concerns civil law. A rough comparison is that we are attempting to regulate free-market socio- economic relations by the previous administrative and directive system's legal norms.

I am aware that judiciary authorities have submitted for parliamentary consideration some fifteen draft laws. Let us calculate, however, what part it constitutes of the 450 legislative acts passed by the parliament in the years of independence. It is impossible for a new criminal code, code of criminal procedure, civil code, code of civil procedure, and many other important draft laws to be brought in without the most active participation by judiciary authorities.

The third group of issues is that the democratization of society and convergence between the standards of settling issues of social relations in the civilized world and those in Ukraine are not possible without increasing the role of judiciary. In a democratic and law governed state, courts of law make decisions on virtually all conflicts of social consequence. The greater the proportion of social disputes that are handled by courts of law and not by executive or legislative authorities, the more grounds there are to regard that society a democracy and that state a law governed one.

It is precisely this course in the development of democratization and wider-ranging participation of judiciary authorities in settling issues of social relations that the president will support. I believe that had the issue of a ban on the activity of the Communist Party in 1991 been considered by a legal procedure rather than by parliament, social and political tension surrounding it today would have been greatly lessened.

Judiciary authorities have to take an active part in settling disputes between religious communities and political organizations. Unfortunately, intervention by judges will probably be necessary to resolve problems of industrial action and relations between the administration and the trades unions.

My conviction is that a strong judiciary will guarantee civil peace and the rights and freedoms of a human being, a citizen and a corporate body, and, incidentally, will secure stability in society.

Fourth, I have repeatedly stressed that the so-called fifth authority has come into acute conflict with the state. Despite the well-known presidential directive passed on this subject, personnel changes, some material support for law enforcement agencies, and the formation of special interdepartmental operative investigatory groups, we have so far failed to reverse developments in our favor. However, the first serious blows on criminal shadow capital have been dealt. Judiciary authorities will in the very near future start receiving materials relating to large-scale crimes against the economy and facts of corruption in the top echelons of state power. It

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will be a serious test of the judges' professional maturity and civil conscience. It will be difficult, on the one hand, not to succumb to pressure by those associates of the accused who are still in power and not to be lured by astronomical bribes and, on the other, objectively and comprehensively to consider a case that is attentively watched by the public firmly in favor of fighting the mafia and not to give in to these sentiments.

As for the president, I want to assure you that I shall do everything to exclude you from attempts of unlawful interference in legal duties discharged by you. We have proclaimed the idea of constructing a law governed state and the president shall not deviate from this principle, nor allow anyone else not to comply with it.

I, regrettably, cannot but recall that there are materials in some criminal cases suggesting that the fifth authority has succeeded in engaging some judges in the sphere of their influence. I hope that judiciary authorities will pay due attention to setting up a mechanism to heighten their own internal security. The president at the same time understands the aspiration of the law enforcement agencies' new leadership to liquidate corruption primarily in those branches that are to safeguard law. This fully applies to the judiciary branch of power. There at the same time will be steps to properly implement the law on state protection for judiciary and law enforcement agencies' staff. Those challenging the criminal fraternity have to have reliable guarantees of their personal safety.

Respected delegates, I know that the congress will certainly address the question of providing judges with the premises, transport, and key personnel. I am aware of the difficult conditions you are working in, of the fact that every fourth position in Ukraine's courts of law is vacant, and that court martials are manned by less than a half, and of many other problems you are faced with. The state today has no possibility of removing these difficulties. Some of the most acute issues, however, will definitely be settled. The first step in this direction has already been made in that a directive has been signed to increase the size of additions to salaries of the post (?according to the qualification) of judges and arbiters. Work is going on to ensure the protection of judges and to provide the necessary material and financial resources.

I, at the same time, sincerely hope that our patriotism; professional pride; sense of honor; and aspiration to establish social justice, bring good, and defend the interests of ordinary citizens will enable us together to overcome temporary problems and fight for the truth and justice. I wish your congress fruitful work, creative search, and success in our common activity. Thank you.

Parliament Adopts Energy Pact

WS2410122594 Kiev INTELNEWS in English 2233 GMT 21 Oct 94

["Special to INTELNEWS" by Serhiy Dmytrychenko: "Deputies Tackle Energy Problems"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, Oct. 21.—Parliament adopted a resolution Friday obligating the government to "take more effective steps to resolve the payment crisis between energy producers and consumers," including the procurement of funds necessary to pay off Ukraine's oil and gas debts. According to the adopted resolution, the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) should provide substantial credits for the needs of the fuel and energy sector.

"Today the energy industry has to work in an emergency situation," said Energy Minister Vilen Semenyuk. "Yesterday, the frequency in the electric network was only 49.05 Hz, which is a critical level. If the commercial frequency keeps on dropping, all the nuclear reactors will be automatically disconnected from the electric network, which would mean a structural collapse of Ukraine's energy system."

State Nuclear Energy Committee chair Georgiy Umanets pointed out specific problems faced by the nuclear industry and argued that bringing prices in line with costs is the only means of solving them. "Opponents of the nuclear energy industry have succeeded in destroying it," he said. "In the past one and a half years, about 10,000 highly-skilled technical specialists quit their jobs because their wages are 1,000 percent lower than in Russia. We do not need any credits—we need energy tariffs to be raised above energy costs," said Umanets.

"The fuel and energy sector is a backbone of the entire economy," said State Coal Industry Committee chair Mykola Surhay. "To secure its economic sovereignty, every year Ukraine should extract at least 150 million tons of coal (this year's figure was only 105 million tons). Today a ton of coal costs KBV [karbovanets] 62,000, about the same price of one kilogram of a poor-quality sausage," said Surhay. The State Coal Industry Committee chair quoted the following figures: Today the coal industry's total debt is KBV 34 billion. At the same time, this year Ukraine has spent US $92 million for purchase of coal from abroad (mainly from Russia and Poland). "There is only one way out from this situation—procure sufficient funds for the development of the coal industry," said Surhay.

Parliamentary energy industry and transport committee chair Oleksandr Kozhushko said that neither of the government's decisions on the development of the energy industry has been implemented. "Members of our committee believe the current situation in the energy industry is extremely difficult, but not disastrous," said Kozhushko. In Kozhushko's opinion, the NBU should be instructed to provide a KBV 30 trillion credit for the needs of the fuel and energy sector.

Parliament Adopts Wage, Pension Resolution

LD2210114094 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—On 20 October Ukraine's Supreme Council adopted a resolution "On increasing

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wages, pensions and social benefits," by means of which it approved the resolutions proposed by the Cabinet of Ministers on the size of wages, pensions, and social benefits. Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Ihor Mityukov delivered a report on these resolutions.

Minimum Wages, Pensions According to Age, Social Pensions

The resolutions on increasing the size of pensions awarded before 1 October 1994, on the procedure for calculating pensions awarded after 1994, and on increasing minimum wages envisage the doubling in size of minimum wages and pensions. (Today the minimum size of wages is 60,000, and the minimum size of pensions 120,000, while the maximum size of pensions is 360,000 karbovantsi, and 480,000 for those who worked in especially harmful conditions).

The size of social pensions and enhancements to pensions are also being doubled.

In connection with increases in prices and tariffs, pensioners of all categories will receive additional monetary payments of 44,000 karbovantsi per month on condition that the total pension with all enhancements does not exceed 1.2 million karbovantsi.

Taking into account all payments, the smallest size of pensions according to age, if there is a full employment history, will come to 410,000 karbovantsi, and the maximum will come to 830,000 karbovantsi. The proposed scheme makes it possible to increase pensions by 2-3.6 times. On average the pension level is being increased by 2.86 times, and taking into account one-off payments in the fall-winter period by three times.

Average Combined Monthly Income Per Family Member

The resolution "On the size of average monetary income and the size of targeted monetary assistance for citizens able to work on minimum incomes" envisages the establishment of the size of average monthly combined income for one family member of 780,000 karbovantsi until the law of Ukraine "On the poverty level" comes into force.

Grants

The size of grant provision for students, post-graduates and research students is being tripled.

Payments to Victims of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station Accident

Compensatory payments to individuals, who have suffered as a result of the Chernobyl disaster, will be increased by 1.5-2 times depending on the type of payment. There are 11 types of such payments in existence at present.

Burial Assistance

The size of assistance for burials, in accordance with the resolution, is increasing to 3.7 million karbovantsi.

Monetary Payments to the Population To Cover Expenditure On Paying for Housing and Utilities Services

Monthly monetary payments to the population at 70 percent of actual expenditure on payment for housing and utilities are established, but no more than 250,000 karbovantsi per family if the average monthly combined income per family member for the previous three months does not exceed 780,000 karbovantsi.

Wages of Culture, Education, Science and Medical Employees

According to Mityukov, the Cabinet of Ministers will finish elaborating a mechanism to calculate the wages of these categories of employees by 28 October. As from 1 October wages for all categories are being tripled. And in November wages are being recalculated to the average wage in industry, taking into account the inflation coefficient.

Mityukov stressed, and the deputies, in supporting the resolutions, agreed, that the proposed measures should only be viewed as temporary ones, which are being introduced until the end of the year, until the laws of Ukraine on payment for labor and calculating pensions are reformed.

The resolutions are in force as from 1 October 1994.

Rukh Statement Supports Economic Plan

WS2410122694 Kiev VYBIR in English 1846 GMT 23 Oct 94

["Statement" released by the National Rukh of Ukraine; place and date not given]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Faction of the Narodny [National] Rukh of Ukraine supports in main the strategic directions for reforming of the economy proposed by the President of Ukraine [in his 11 October address to the Supreme Soviet]. We consider that the Supreme Council should support these provisions and guarantee their introduction into life. We state that a new economic course can be taken when the present government is replaced and the new government is headed by the President. It is necessary to reform the entire system of the executive vertical with liquidation of useless structures, in particular, in the Cabinet of Ministers, and replacement of the staff in the apparatus of ministries and governmental departments.

Remarks as to the report:

1) considering the CIS be a structure with no future and approving of the course for promotion of equal bilateral relations, the Rukh faction warns against too close

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integration within the CIS, and is against establishing of any super state structures, which can damage Ukraine's sovereignty;

2) the Rukh faction demands that the position concerning the land reform within the larger state support of the new forms of property and economic activities is expressed clearer;

3) the Rukh faction demands that the position concerning the forming of the municipal property and relations between the state executive authorities and local self-governing bodies is expressed clearer.

The Rukh faction stresses again that the economic program of the Supreme Council was approved on the initiative of the Socialist faction with violations, it was not a subject for discussion, it is one-sided, declarative and cannot serve as a ground for the state economic policy.

[Signed] Head of the Rukh faction in the Supreme Council of Ukraine, Vyacheslav Chornovil

Kravchuk Stresses Need for 'National Accord'

AU2410112094 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 15 Oct 94 pp 2, 3

[Interview with Former President Leonid Makarovych Kravchuk by HOLOS UKRAYINY Editor-in-Chief Serhiy Pravdenko; place and date not given: "I Can't Just Sit With a Fishing Rod in Hand, Even Though Some People Want To Grace Me With Such an Occupation on a Permanent Basis"—first paragraph published in italics]

[FBIS Translated Text] *As is known, Leonid Makarovych Kravchuk was elected as Ukraine's people's deputy at Terebovlyanskyy Electoral District No. 364 (in Ternopil Oblast). Our conversation started from that.*

[Kravchuk] During the elections, that piece of land—two rayons—became a testing ground for law and lawlessness. It was particularly disheartening that authorities interfered directly in the elections, something that is at variance with the law. However, despite the enormous pressure, people went and voted.

[Pravdenko] Given this particular time, the activity of the voters was unique.

[Kravchuk] Villagers voted. In rural areas, there are problems with [internal] passports. A person gets a passport and throws it into a box and it stays there. A granny comes to the polling station and says: "Don't you know me?" "Yes, we do, but produce your passport," they reply. She goes, with her cane, back home, finds the passport, and returns. There were some very moving occasions. People no longer believe lies. An opponent makes a speech and says that Kravchuk has a summer house worth $90 million in the United States, but even that isn't enough for him, and he also had another house built for him in Switzerland for $60 million. A simple man stands up and says: "My relative in Canada has a large building worth $350,000. Do you mean to say that Kravchuk has a skyscraper there?" People simply laugh.

[Pravdenko] What is your general opinion of the majority election system? There is no cadres selection, at least within the framework of parties. One simply goes and proposes his candidacy. Nobody knows who he is....

[Kravchuk] I would even say that we now have no system at all. Some political forces took advantage of democracy in order to create lawlessness during the elections. In the past, elections were controlled by a single party and government. Now, it is not controlled by anyone, and the authorities interfere in elections irresponsibly and illegally. Those who can influence others use democracy in order to come to power in an undemocratic manner.

The multiparty system of elections is more democratic. However, it requires the availability of parties. Even earlier, in the past, I was in favor of a mixed system, because I knew that small parties needed time to become consolidated, so that real political forces would come into existence. A party or an alliance of parties could assume responsibility for policy, for state building, and for the economy. What is there now in the Supreme Council? At the beginning, it was said that left-wing forces had taken the upper hand. Then they saw that they should be in charge of something and fulfill their promises. So the left began to say, first cautiously and then in full voice: "No, we have not won, there are as many of us on the left as deputies on the right, but there is also a center." It appears, as a result, that there is no political force in the Supreme Council that would be able to assume responsibility for the state. In general, there is the Supreme Council and there is, in general, an alignment of forces in the Supreme Council. Depending upon the situation, different ways of voting are possible. That is all. What system is there to talk about?

Time is needed; we must live through all of this and digest it all, and then an influential force will emerge. If these are left-wing forces, let them be. Let there be those whom the people elect. However, they should be fully answerable for the legislative power, for the formation of the government, and for everything else.

Now, we are seeing an attempt to evade responsibility and pass it on to somebody else. We already passed this. This is the mentality of all of our forces—right- or left-wing alike. One side says: We are in a minority and the other maintains: We are in opposition.

[Pravdenko] If your assessments are correct, then the prerogatives of the Supreme Council will automatically "flow over" to the president and to the Council of Regions created by him. Somebody will have to take the responsibility upon himself....

[Kravchuk] The Supreme Council must realize that it is the supreme legislative body. It must adopt laws that society needs, do so on time, and determine political and

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economic strategies. Control is a different matter; there are commissions within that same Supreme Council. All of this is clearly delineated, and one should not thresh someone else's sheaf. My grandfather taught me that when people are treshing, everyone must hit his own sheaf. If two people beat the same sheaf, one of them may be struck on the head.

[Pravdenko] Reports in the press have stated that you intend to head the national democratic forces in the Supreme Council.

[Kravchuk] I would not like to reduce everything to national democratic forces. I am thinking about a union of democratic and patriotic forces.

This is a somewhat different alignment of forces. Since there are patriotic forces that are not part of the democratic camp. For example, I know many plant directors who prefer old Marxist-Leninist teachings in their philosophic outlook, but they are saying openly: We will never agree to have old rayon party committees restored, and we will never agree to be summoned to some bureau meetings and be given directives: how to work, when to sow, and when to harvest. To put it differently, they are inclined to adhere to the left-wing philosophy, but in practice prefer independence and are in favor of civilized market relations. They only want to be dependent upon laws and upon a system of management proceeding from these democratic laws. We must build the Ukrainian state together. National accord and national reconciliation is yet another must. I visited some Galician villages. There are three graves near a village: Sich [Cossack] riflemen, Ukrainian Insurrection Army warriors, and liberator soldiers, who defeated fascism. All the three graves are well looked after, and there are flowers near each of them. The buried remains have reconciled themselves to one another, yet the living do not even seek reconciliation. As long as there is no reconciliation, there can be no talk of national harmony, because children and grandchildren will build their lives in line with the mutual hatred fostered by their grandfathers and fathers. This destructive tradition must be stopped. The leader of the state must deal with these problems. The legislator must create laws, and the government must regulate the economy. Incidentally, national reconciliation is not a new idea. Finland, Spain, and Germany have gone through it. We had a difficult history, there were repressions, there were artificial famines, and there were certain forces in western regions and different forces elsewhere. Well, should we go on squabbling? I hear in the east: They are Stepan Bandera [nationalist leader, who sided with fascists during World War II] followers, bad people, they must come and ask forgiveness. What are the living people guilty of? Are there any really serious politicians who believe that it is possible to force sisters, brothers, or children to denounce or condemn their buried dead?

[Pravdenko] There is still dispute over flags for the army. Some people want the army to fly flags of a state that no longer exists—the USSR.

[Kravchuk] How about flags with portraits of Lenin and Stalin? I happened to hear the leader of the Russian Communists, Gennadiy Zyuganov. He said that the limit of revolution in Russia has been reached. He has realized that. It is only our blockheads who cannot understand this. It is some affliction in Ukraine. It hasn't been driven home to them that, today, the struggle around flags, symbols, or language will lead to dividing Ukraine into regions.

We need consolidation. Of course, in the Supreme Council, I will join some faction or group. Possibly, it will be the "Center" or the "Statehood" group. I have no plans to join the opposition.

I wouldn't even have stood as a people's deputy if there had been no internal and external threat to our state. More than 12 million people voted for me at the presidential elections. This means that I cannot just sit with a fishing rod in my hand. I must actively help the authorities to build the state. I must also actively criticize the authorities if they do something that, in my opinion, is wrong. In short, I must work actively. If fewer people had voted for me in the presidential elections, then I would have got myself a fishing rod.

[Pravdenko] What is your attitude toward the fact that the powers of a deputy, who has been elected by the people and recognized by the Central Electoral Committee, must also be confirmed (or rejected) by the Supreme Council Mandates Commission and then by the Supreme Council itself?

[Kravchuk] The Constitution must be changed. It is not the will of the people and of the voters that prevails there, but other factors. The old Constitution was created for precisely such purposes. What if somebody unruly gets into it?! Or if they will, in the course of time, say unsuitable things?! However, the voter must finally become the main figure in the election process. The final say on the powers of people's deputies must belong to the Central Electoral Committee or to the Supreme Court. It wouldn't be bad if the latter would swear in newly elected deputies; the oath of allegiance to Ukraine.

[Pravdenko] What did you fail to accomplish as president? I mean actual things, and not wishes or dreams.

[Kravchuk] There are two dimensions. There is a state dimension, on a large scale, and of a global character. An independent Ukraine has come into being. I had something to do with it, and it is a matter of pride for me. However, at that time, when Ukraine began to be built, I did not resolve the following questions: I could not establish normal relations of mutual tolerance with the Supreme Council. Here, I do not only see the Supreme Council's fault, but also my own. Another shortcoming: I did not create a strong government and my own team. I could not create such a team that would combine experienced people and young people devoted to Ukraine; people, who know economics and know objective laws. In my opinion, these are the two issues that

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undermined relations between me and the Supreme Council and that hampered reforms. There was no consistency in the work of the power structures.

[Pravdenko] This may be partly due to the fact that there was, and still is, no political elite in Ukraine. It is just starting to emerge.

[Kravchuk] Yes, but this doesn't justify me. Undoubtedly, the elite grows out of the nation. First, a nation is created as a single monolith whole, capable of standing on both its feet and loving its history, its culture, and its language. Out of a nation there grows the elite, which serves the nation. We do not yet have this. I recently read Ivan Bahryanyy, and Mykola Khvylyovyy before that. The latter was, so to speak, in opposition within the party. Both of them and Vynnychenko [writer and head of the Ukrainian nationalist government in 1918-19] said this: One should not alienate those cadres that grow in the party. I knew that. Incidentally, the Ukrainian Communist Party united 3.5 million members. How many are there now? The majority of them have found their place in life and work for Ukraine; as well as they can. It is good that we did not heed the people who shouted: All those who were in the party should not be entrusted with responsible work and should almost be beheaded. However, among that mass of people, from a foreman to the prime minister, there are numerous people who truly believe in Ukraine. However, I could not find enough professional and dedicated people, not only in the center, but also in the provinces—although I looked for them among different forces. It turned out that some of the people who were entrusted with power turned against the president. It is not just a matter of my personality. They came out against the political course. We are now hearing an increasing numbers of voices: Don't look toward the West at all; we must only look eastwards. However, there is no state in the world that would only look in one direction. Besides, people look for credits... in the West.

[Pravdenko] Isn't the price that our people are paying for the transition period too high? For the absence of a political or economic elite that would lead the people while knowing the direction. Right, the people did not produce that elite. More accurately, they did, but for the Union. The price of independence cannot be too high. However, how can a person who receives 300,000 coupons [karbovantsi] a month, or who sometimes does not get anything at all for months, understand this? The exchange rate of the coupon has now declined further and one gets the impression that the economic crisis is developing into a psychological one, into hopelessness....

[Kravchuk] Today, it is difficult to talk about optimism; optimism can only be work, with good remuneration. Why say lofty words like "toward statehood and independence"? We do have an independent, sovereign, and united Ukraine. We have our government, president, Supreme Council, Army, and security institutions. We have everything that a state may need. Right, it is not perfect and not as strong as we would like it to be, but it exists. Therefore, it is now necessary to strengthen and develop the state. Here, there is only one road—work done by everybody. Yes, there are economic sacrifices, both objective and subjective, however, thank God, there have been no human casualties. Go to Azerbaijan or Georgia and see what this means. Almost all the countries of the former USSR have found themselves in a difficult situation.

Of course, with a better economic policy, economic losses may be smaller, however, today, the situation has become even more complicated. We want to join a financial market without having an economic market. We want money to work in accordance with market laws and the economy to remain a state responsibility. The monetary unit should not be without control as long as there is nothing to support it. It may be liberated when the bank has $3 or $4 billion dollars in reserve and when the exchange rate can always be adjusted. If there are no such dollars, then what can one sell at the exchange? Practice is the best criterion of history. We'll see.

[Pravdenko] From where can people derive at least some optimism?

[Kravchuk] I went to the village of Velykyy Hrybochok. It is in the immediate vicinity of Ternopil. Two years earlier, it was a mediocre farm. At present, they gathered 70 centners [unit of weight, 1 centner weighs 220.46 pounds] of wheat from one hectare. There was an excellent harvest of peas, and the milk yield has grown. The chairman says: We have no problems with either fuel or payments. The problem lies in economic management alone. It is necessary for the people to realize that there is no other way. Nobody will give money "for nothing"; not the International Monetary Fund, not the International Bank, and not Russia—nobody. It is necessary to find strength and work and rely upon ourselves. The Supreme Council should not engage in political disputes, but should ensure economic revival through legislation.

However, so far, there is still too much politics everywhere. For example, in Luhansk Oblast, Communists have come to power. Completely. Everything there is communist. The Oblast Council, the Executive Committee, the local power, and so on. Next to us, there is Russia and borders. If you want to carry on management in a sensible manner—establish ties, do something, and raise the standard of living. Well? Are there any results? Not much to speak about. The mayor of Odessa already sells land without heeding the Supreme Council. He hopes that there will be a revival. Once I issued an edict authorizing the sale of unfinished construction facilities together with land. What an uproar there was in the Supreme Council! Well, now the city is selling land for construction projects. Everything is quiet. If this continues, the central power will be in dispute with itself. The regions will leave it behind. Take China, where there is a shortage of land and land is leased for 99 years ahead. Skyscrapers are built there. The economy is

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developing. How about us? Political debates! Not only is the Supreme Council weak, but all branches of power are. Nobody is strong, everybody is weak. A situation may arise in which the president will have to adopt some directives and edicts. In order to prevent this from happening, the Supreme Council must already start adopting important laws. I spoke about this before the presidential elections. I mean the Law on Government—the Cabinet of Ministers, the Law on Powers of Local Power Bodies, and the Law on the Constitution.

People in the provinces will work and will do what is necessary. They cannot wait any longer.

Power is not exercised through edicts, power must be at a constitutional level, power is the Constitution. The Supreme Law must accurately and clearly specify power, subordination, and mechanisms: jurisdiction, financial provision, and responsibility. One can grant jurisdiction and not give money; what are those jurisdictions then worth without money? Who today can dismiss a local council chairman for failing to fulfill state directives? The president may be replaced through a referendum, but how about others? Just try to recall a deputy—no way! Until these elementary things are fixed, how can there be order in the state?

[Pravdenko] To support your thesis, I can recall how well a complicated military issue was resolved. At that time, the Supreme Council acted way ahead in military legislation. One, two, three, nine legislative acts—that is all.

[Kravchuk] Right. When we went to the CIS conference, we had laws. A legislative foundation. A package of laws. Much was done with a view to the future. If, at the referendum, we had adopted the main clauses of the law on government, many of the present problems would not have emerged. At that time, there were normal proposals, but the Supreme Council would not adopt them; it was not ready to adopt them. The president issues edicts, grants power to the chairmen of oblast councils, and convenes the Council of Regions, however, nowhere in the world has power been exercised through edicts. Power is exercised through the Constitution and laws. This is the supreme plenary power of the Supreme Council. There can be no democracy without the Supreme Council. God forbid having power concentrated in the hands of a single person, even if he is an angel. In no time at all, the angel would grow horns. The entourage will see to it. There must be a president, there must be a Supreme Council, there must be a government, a Constitution, and an independent court. All of these must be there, and all must work well. Then there will be a normal society. However, today, the Supreme Council, the government, the president, the entire judicial and prosecution system, and all power bodies and security services are failing to ensure the state's interests. I reiterate—all of them! One should not try now to judge who is better and who is worse. Here is my conviction: There must be accord among branches of power, there must be accord in society—national accord and national reconciliation. Ukraine must be built on this foundation.

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Belarus

Lukashenka 'Displeased' With Work of CIS Summit

LD2310165294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1526 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka stated that he was displeased with the incincrete [word as received] work of the CIS. Upon returning home from the CIS summit he told journalists that if this tendency persisted, no more money and effort should be put into such meetings.

He also expressed regret that Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev was offended by the rejection of his Eurasian Union idea. He confirmed that he was a staunch supporter of close integration between the former Soviet republics, but added that there was no need to establish new structures.

He announced that he was not upset by the decision to headquarter the International Economic Committee in Moscow, not in Minsk. For Belarus, it would be rather difficult to accommodate 700 Committee members.

He noted, however, that the location of the Committee in Minsk would have been prestigious for Belarus and would fully correspond to the CIS Charter. This is the only reason why I could not depart from the old position during the summit, he said.

He expressed indignation with Boris Yeltsin's proposal to appoint former Belarusian prime minister and Lukashenka's rival during the presidential campaign Vyacheslav Kebich to the post of chairman of the Committee collegium. This initiative came from Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin not from Boris Yeltsin. Chernomyrdin and Kebich are linked with bonds of personal friendship, he said.

Lukashenka Appoints, Relieves Officials

WS2110135094 Minsk BTK Television Network in Belarusian 1900 GMT 18 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka has signed a number of new edicts. In particular, he appointed Valyantsin Zoryn minister of forestry. He also relieved Mikalay Stsepanenka from the post of first deputy health minister due to his transfer to another post, and Ruslan Belahortsaw from the post of deputy chairman of the State Committee for Architecture and Construction due to the abolishment of this committee.

Appoints Two Ministers

WS2110125494 Minsk BTK Television Network in Belarusian 1900 GMT 17 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] We received edicts today signed by Belarusian President Lukashenka nominating Hancharenka Uladzimir Ivanavich as minister of communication and information technology, as well as Badzey Ryhor Pyatrovich as minister for managing state property and privatization.

Labor Minister Views Employment Issues

WS2110144594 Minsk DOBRY VECHAR in Belarusian 18 Oct 94 p 2

[Interview with Labor Minister Alyaksandr Viktaravich Sasnow by unidentified BELAPAN correspondent; place and date not given: "Only Bolsheviks Could Achieve 'Comprehensive Employment'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Belarusian Labor Minister Alyaksandr Viktaravich Sasnow, who is our new minister, believes that only Bolsheviks could achieve "comprehensive employment." He granted an interview to a BELAPAN correspondent.

Alyaksandr Sasnow was born in 1947 in Gomel. He graduated from a road-building specialized secondary school in Gomel. He later finished Gomel University with a degree in economics and completed postgraduate studies at the same university. He later lectured there as a professor. He was elected Supreme Soviet deputy in 1990 when he headed the chair of management of economy and organization of production at the Gomel Polytechnical Institute.

[Correspondent] Your new appointment was very wise. You have been heading the legislative commission, which dealt with various issues including employment, for four years. You have also been a shadow cabinet minister.... Therefore, you are in the know on the situation, and it will not take you long to get acquainted with your new duties. What—regarding the work of your predecessor—would you like to preserve and develop, and of what would you like to get rid?

[Sasnow] Life demands that changes be introduced. My predecessor, I believe—proceeding from the current situation—would have also behaved in a similar fashion. Heorhiy Pyatrovich Badzey is a rather flexible and a politically experienced person, so I do not think that I would have to abolish anything that was established by him. Life, however, is life and we cannot do without changes.

Let us take the presidential decree regarding staff reductions. We will have to change the entire staff system. We will have to part with some people and employ new individuals.... You realize that this process is rather complicated and even painful.

As for political aspects, a ministry, in my opinion, is not a place to deal with politics. A minister, however, should be a politician. Therefore, I will have to behave myself with more circumspection than in the Supreme Soviet. Taking into consideration the fact that a government should be a team, we have to take into account all the adopted decisions. Until a decision is adopted, a minister can defend his viewpoint. It is a question, however, if anything positive will come out of that. I will occupy this post until decisions by the Cabinet of Ministers come into conflict with my convictions and conscience.

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[Correspondent] Alyaksandr Viktaravich, our Constitution postulates the right to work. Can our state provide guarantees for employment to its citizens?

[Sasnow] If you want me to be objective, it is impossible to provide guarantees for employment. I tried to defend my position when the Constitution was adopted. (I want to emphasize that I did not vote for it). The situation looks the following way: If there are jobs, the state can provide a person with a job. If there are no jobs, we cannot even discuss this issue. Our Constitution is contradictory. It contains, for example, a paragraph stating that when an individual is unemployed, the state protects his interests and pays him various benefits, and so on. This implies that, on the one hand, we are promising to provide every person with a job, on the other hand, we are admitting that unemployment exists....

In my opinion, we should have adopted this paragraph with the following wording: The state is striving to provide the most comprehensive and efficient employment to Belarusian citizens, it is encouraging employment in every possible way, it assists the people in retraining, in establishing businesses, in finding ways of earning money.... If it is otherwise, these promises are only empty words: There are rights, however, there are no opportunities. To quickly respond to demands of society, every normal working economy should have various reserves, including reserves of labor. I have not heard about a genius who could invent a theory of 100-percent employment. Bolsheviks, anyway, tried to implement something of the kind.... They imprisoned half of the population in camps who worked without pay for those who had not been imprisoned. Jobs for three people were divided between 20 individuals, and the same was done with payments. There is, however, another way to implement this idea.... A road, let us assume, was paved today. It will, however, be broken tomorrow because someone had to dig a pit. A third group of people will spread asphalt again the day after tomorrow.... All people in the state are employed and work hard. Why? How can a state encourage employment? The international community has enormous experience on this issue. For example, you are a U.S. citizen and want to repair your apartment. You buy materials and equipment, and repair your apartment yourself. You will later have to fill out an income statement in which your expenditures will be liable to high taxes. If you, however, employ a person to repair your apartment, your expenditures will be your investment and your taxes will be reduced. It will be advantageous for you and the person you employ. There are many ways of encouraging employment and we should use them in our practice.

[Correspondent] How do you assess the labor market in Belarus? Do we, in general, have something of the kind?

[Sasnow] We have always had a labor market. A labor market is balanced when the demand for and supply of labor correspond to each other during a certain period of time. If an economy is healthy, however, the supply of labor usually exceeds existing demands. There are some 2,000 unemployed people in Belarus; this is not much. We should not forget, however, that the policy of the previous political system, especially of its executive branch, was aimed at keeping the people at enterprises and forcing them to produce goods which were not at all in demand by all possible means. The previous regime confiscated property from those people, who could work and enrich themselves, and transferred it to the people who could not do anything. This was done to keep people employed. [sentence as published]. They used to say: "We have no unemployment, we combat against it." This is nonsense. The people who could work, were gradually ruined and joined the group of people who could not work. State's expenditures on an idle enterprise could have been, at least, less, because it would not have to pay for raw materials and power. The state, however, behaved the other way around: It paid little money and the people half-starved. They looked for a job and some of them found one. It is a universal truth: When you are hungry, your intellect starts working. Is it immoral?

Is it moral, however, when all of us are half-starved? Is it moral if we leave the same state of things as a legacy to our children? Is it moral if we eat everything we have and ruin the state? This is why I support the decrease in taxes that in turn can damage our social programs. The state should support the people who cannot work—the disabled, pensioners, children, and other categories.

[Correspondent] Officials, who are maintaining enterprises at the expense of credits, are interpreting their behavior by noble reasons. They usually say that they are taking care of the people and preventing a social explosion....

[Sasnow] Yes, I have heard them reasoning: Equal poverty is better than a social explosion.... I agree, we should avoid social explosions. Despite my liberal viewpoints, I insist, however, on increasing minimum wages. The Belarusian National Bank is definitely against this drive. Their reasoning is as follows: If we increase wages, we will raise the inflation rate. Wages account for a small share of production costs, however, they play a leading role in stimulating production. Issuing of unfounded credits to bankrupt enterprises, however, should be stopped because this is one of the sources of inflation.

If we had liberated prices three years ago, the people would have already gotten used to them. We, however, went around in circles and added zeros to prices and wages. Therefore, we are no better off than before....

Do you know what made me join this government? The first two moves taken by our president. I was not in his team during the elections because I did not know in what direction he would go: On the one hand, he was committed to reforms, on the other hand, he spoke about "equality" and "social justice." I fully approve of his

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first decisions, even if they had been forced by circumstances—Kebich would have never dared to implement them—such as the revaluation of the Belarusian ruble, which can be regarded as the last but one step in recognizing the national currency, and the freeing of prices for the remainder of goods.

[Correspondent] Of course, you have heard about the anti-crisis program. What does it foresee in terms of employment?

[Sasnow] The anti-crisis program has not yet been drafted in its entirety, therefore, it is too early to discuss it. To clarify this issue, I will touch on only one detail. Speaking about employment, it is necessary to pay attention to such an aspect as encouragement of entrepreneurship. Certain people do not suspect that they have this rare talent which does not at all depend on a university diploma. I am acquainted with a pilot in the Reserves, who is over 60 years old, however, he is a talented manager. He, however, manifested his prowess not long ago. He has established a furniture factory and is prospering. We should look for such people, assist them, and remove all obstacles—that our "developed" socialist society has accumulated—in their path. It would be correct if drafters included paragraphs on encouragement of such people into the anti-crisis program.

Vilnius Embassy Statement on Nuclear Station Talks

LD2110124994 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1000 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Republic of Belarus, not possessing a single nuclear power station and having suffered more than other states from the Chernobyl accident, has done everything in its power to solve the problem, reads a statement sent by the Belarusian Embassy in Lithuania to ELTA. The Embassy informs that currently, laws are being drafted in Belarus to regulate the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. This demonstrates that endeavors are being made to develop good relations not only with neighbors, but also with other states.

Belarusian representatives have drafted a project for a tripartite Belarusian, Swedish, and Lithuanian agreement. According to this project, all responsibility for possible damages caused by a nuclear accident will be borne by the owner of the nuclear power station. Such a solution, in the opinion of the Belarusians, will enable Swedish suppliers to implement a whole range of improvements in the safety of the Ignalina nuclear power station.

But Swedish representatives did not agree with this proposal during the negotiations in Stockholm and urged Belarus to conclude separate bilateral agreements with Sweden and Lithuania. A new round of negotiatons started in January 1994 in Vilnius. Draft bilaterial agreements proposed by Belarusian experts were examined. The Lithuanian delegation proposed an extension of the limits of the draft projects and conclusion of an extensive agreement on cooperation in the sphere of nuclear energy.

Unfortunately, issues concerning the improvement of safety at the Ignalina nuclear power station must unavoidably be discussed. Belarus supported this version. It was agreed in principle that, after the signing of a Belarusian-Lithuanian agreement, the Republic of Belarus, not wishing to create any obstacles to the Swedish program of support to Lithuania, will unilaterally give up any claims to the firms supplying equipment. But Lithuania so far has not expressed its opinion on the date and place for signing the agreement, concludes the statement by the Belarusian Embassy.

Moldova

CSCE Alarmed by Tension Over Language Dispute

LD2110193194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1701 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kishinev [Chisinau] October 21 TASS—CSCE is alarmed with the increased tension in the trans-Dniester region caused by the Tiraspol prohibition to teach the language on the basis of Latin script in Moldavian schools.

The recent large-scale actions of protest in Bendery and other cities do not help stability necessary to reach accord, CSCE General Secretary Wilhelm Honk said here today when in the trans-Dniester region as part of his official Moldavian [Moldovan] visit.

Today Honk met the trans-Dniester leaders and 14th Army Commander Aleksandr Lebed to discuss settlement of the trans-Dniester conflict mediated by the CSCE permanent mission in Moldavia and special representative of the Russian president Vladlen Vasev, as well as the upcoming withdrawal of the Russian 14th Army from the Moldavian trans-Dniester region. Honk called on the sides for more confidence in today's Russian-Moldavian agreement on troops withdrawal to be completed within three years.

Russian Role Praised in Dniester Settlement

LD2210142694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1414 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kishinev [Chisinau] October 22 TASS—Russian peace-makers staying in the Trans-Dniester safety zone are a stabilizing factor, CSCE General Secretary Wilhelm Honk told a news conference on results of his four-day Moldavian visit here today.

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When in Moldavia [Moldova], the CSCE head met the Moldavian president, the parliament speaker and the prime minister, the Trans-Dniester leaders and the commander of the 14th Russian Army.

Honk described the public-political situation in Moldavia as stable, and said that CSCE will continue mediation of the Trans-Dniester settlement. He welcomed the Moscow agreement on withdrawal of the 14th Russian Army and expressed the hope the sides will abide by their obligations.

Lebed Says 14th Army Stays Until Issues Resolved

MK2110105094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 21 Oct 94 p 2

[Report by Yuriy Selivanov from Tiraspol in the "Presence" column: "General Lebed Acknowledges Himself as 'Informal Army Leader.' Russian Troops Will Not Leave the Dniester Region Within the Coordinated Time Frame"]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed, 14th army commander, who granted an exclusive interview to SEGODNYA's correspondent, the Russian-Moldovan agreement on the pullout of Russian troops from the Dniester Region, set for signing in Moscow on 21 October, is rather a political declaration than a practical document.

The general said that there is still a whole number of "routine" questions, without resolving which there is no way one can even think about withdrawing the army. He cited the evacuation of arms and equipment from the Dniester Region, including hundreds of thousands of tonnes of ammunition, among such problems. According to Lebed's estimates, a mere clearing of the artillery depots in the Kolbasna area of their contents will take 3.5 years, which exceeds the time frame envisioned under the agreement. Furthermore, it is not clear whether Ukraine will agree to allow this explosive cargo through its territory and how much customs duty it will demand for it. Moreover, in Russia, too, the general believes, there is no place to store the warheads evacuated from the Dniester Region.

Aleksandr Lebed stressed that without reaching agreement with the Tiraspol leadership, which, he observed, is "sabotaging" the negotiations on the troop pullout, it would be extremely unwise to begin this process. The 14th Army commander noted that the positive meaning of the agreement lies in the fact that thanks to the document the troops under the general's command will cease to be regarded as an occupation force, and the army will acquire an official status on Moldavia's [Moldova] territory. This, in Gen. Lebed's opinion, will substantially facilitate the resolution of a complex of problems related to the presence of Russian troops in the republic.

Gen. Lebed has some doubts that the pullout of the 14th Army will benefit anybody: with the exception of certain "external forces" which, according to the general, are paying Kishinev [Chisinau] for dislodging Russian troops from the region. As for the Moldovan leadership itself, Aleksandr Lebed is not convinced about the sincerity of its intentions to put an end to the Russian military presence in Moldova. A number of deputies of the Kishinev parliament who visited the general asked him to understand the position of the Moldova leadership and not to attach too much importance to the propaganda campaign over the withdrawal of the Russian troops. According to Lebed, approximately 70 percent of Moldovan parliamentarians are negatively disposed toward the pullout of the army, regarding its presence as a guarantee of the republic's state sovereignty.

In a conversation with the 14th Army commander, SEGODNYA's correspondent also touched on the question of his interrelations with the Russian Defense Ministry leadership. In particular a recent publication in the STOLITSA magazine was mentioned, saying that Aleksandr Lebed has become an informal leader of the army and in this capacity is standing up to the corrupt military top. The general agreed with such an appraisal, stressing that he does not know what the Russian Defense Ministry is doing: "In any event, it is not managing the troops or pursuing reform in the army."

Foreign Minister: Russians Can Serve in Moldova

LD2210170094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1549 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Foreign Minister Mikhail Popov has said that officers from Russia's 14th Army can continue their service in the National Army of Moldova. There is every opportunity for this: all depends on the officers' wish and on Moldova's legislation, he told a news conference in Chisinau on Saturday [22 October].

"The agreements we signed are a logical conclusion of two years of negotiations, and both sides must be interested in implementing them," Popov said.

When asked about the role played by Russia and its peacekeeping forces in the efforts to settle the conflict in Trans-Dniester, Popov noted: "the peacekeeping forces have their mandate; the parties concerned have a positive attitude to them, and the Russian leadership in the person of President Boris Yeltsin has been consistent in recognizing Moldova as an indivisible state, which played a positive role in the endeavors to resolve the conflict."

"Nevertheless in Russia there are forces which support separatism and view Trans-Dniester as a springboard for restoring the former Soviet empire. They do not play a dominating role in the Russian Federation, but they must not be disregarded," Popov pointed out.

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Defense Minister Denies Cooperation Accord Signed

AU2210191894 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1800 GMT 22 Oct 94

[Report by Mircea Motrici]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Defense Ministry of the Republic of Moldova maintains cooperation relations with the similar ministries in Romania, Ukraine, and Belarus, stated Division General Pavel Creanga, defense minister of the Republic of Moldova, commenting on a news item from the ITAR-TASS news agency, according to which during the recent CIS summit meeting in Moscow, a military cooperation accord was signed with the Russian Federation.

Mr. Pavel Creanga pointed out that the accord on the pullout of the 14th Russian Army from the Republic of Moldova includes two additional documents, signed by the defense ministers of the two states, regulating the flight activities of the Russian Air Force transportation fleet, which is to utilize the Tiraspol military airfield, as well as aspects in connection with the juridical assistance until the conclusion of the 14th Army pullout.

Mr. Creanga added that in Moscow, no issues were discussed regarding bilateral relations between the two ministries.

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Kazakhstan

UK Helps Develop Bakyrchik Gold Mine

LD2210115294 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 0700 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Bakyrchik gold deposit in Semey region has been attracting gold miners with its gold reserves for a long time. However, the Kazakhs could not extract gold from the gold raw material because it contains many elements. The creation of the new Bakyrchik joint venture by British businessmen and the Kazakh National Altyn-Almaz joint stock company helped to remove these technical difficulties.

The enterprise floated its shares on the London stock exchange which has enabled it to purchase the necessary equipment worth $12 million and construct a plant.

Since purchasing the equipment and constructing the plant the Bakyrchik-Gold joint venture has started production. So productivity of the deposit has risen 1.5 times to 150,000 [metric] tonnes. The new equipment and technology has proved its worth.

Now the second necessary step is to be taken. Working together with British geologists and businessmen, who are assisting in the construction of the Kostanay ore mining and processing enterprise, the Kazakhs will gain invaluable experience.

So the enterprise, which has been constructed with the help of foreigners and which is being operated by them using advanced technology, will create the country's gold fund.

Nazarbayev: Eurasia Project Spurs CIS Integration

LD2110192394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1609 GMT 21 Oct 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature; compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy and edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Nursultan Nazarbayev gave an exclusive interview to an Interfax correspondent on the threshold of a CIS summit in Moscow.

INTERFAX: The forthcoming Moscow summit's agenda includes a point on your Eurasian alliance plan. Do you think the debate on that will yield fruit?

NAZARBAYEV: What is already important is that the presidents will exchange views on the plan. However, any substantive decision will be unlikely at the summit. But we could ask appropriate bodies and experts to draft proposals on the issue for the next summit, and that would not be bad at all.

Half a year has passed since March when Kazakhstan came up with its Eurasian project. The plan has prompted over 200 media publications, international conferences with a tremendous response and interesting proposals, which I have sent to all CIS states. The plan has evoked interest outside the Commonwealth in some East European and Baltic countries, and in China.

For this reason, I still believe that my doctrine mirrors the view of the majority of people living in the former USSR and expresses their will. Personally for me, it is a humanitarian aspect that matters most of all for me in this initiative.

The integration of our economies will benefit all of us, including our enterprises and the people working there. We are beginning to lose our home market, which is very important for us. All have hoped to find a new market, but have not found it. Nor will they find one soon since our products cannot compete on the world market.

I can say one thing: the Eurasian alliance project has still spurred the integration process. It is thanks to this initiative that a comprehensive integration program has been devised and the formation of an interstate economic committee has been sped up. Once the project was announced, all the republics have started urging stronger integration within CIS.

But I stress that mutual understanding, friendship, and peace can be achieved through the equality and sovereignty of our states and through the awareness of their common historical destinies. That could be the basis for integration with Russia to play the key part in this process.

Nazarbayev Comments on CIS Summit

LD2210161594 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1310 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Nursultan Nazarbayev held a news conference today at Kazakhstan's Embassy in Moscow. Our observer Yuliy Semenov was present. He is now on the telephone line to the Mayak studio.

[Semenov] Good day. Naturally the president of Kazakhstan paid particular attention to the results of yesterday's meeting of CIS heads of state. He said that he is satisfied with the decisions on creating an interstate economic committee and on a payments union, and with the document on the prospects for the integration of the CIS states in the coming few years.

As everyone expected, he dwelled in detail on the project for the creation of a Eurasian Union which he proposed. This was also on the agenda yesterday. As people are aware, the project was noted by the Council of Heads of State and it was decided to use its ideas in the practice of the Commonwealth's work. I asked Nursultan Nazarbayev whether he had foreseen such an outcome and, if he had, why was he insisting on official consideration of the project. He said he wanted to assess the official attitude of each of the presidents to the project and he has done so. In this connection he enumerated for the correspondents all the nuances of the position of each

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president, but of course I am unable to repeat all this. He stated that he is not content and will now forward the project to the parliaments of all CIS states, since he is convinced that the creation of a Eurasian Union will accord with the aspirations of the overwhelming majority of citizens of the Commonwealth states.

He spoke in detail about how the work of the Interstate Economic Committee would be structured. He informed us of certain details of what was discussed yesterday, which simply puzzled many people—including myself. It turns out that Russian President Boris Yeltsin recommended—would you believe—former Belarusian Premier Vyacheslav Kebich for the post of head of the Interstate Economic Committee, who as you know was soundly defeated in his country's elections. Naturally, Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka, who won those elections, sharply objected to this candidacy and it was not accepted. Well, I can only suppose that Boris Yeltsin was bound by certain personal promises and did not particularly expect that his proposal would be accepted.

Nazarbayev also went on to say that he believes the committee should be headed by one of the new market-oriented people, and cited Grigoriy Yavlinskiy as an example. I think that this statement will also evoke much response.

The correspondents asked questions about the recent meeting of five Turkic-speaking CIS states with Turkey's President Demirel in Istanbul. Nazarbayev rejected any suspicion of pan-Turkism and Islamicism, and said that Kazakhstan's main orientation remains toward Russia and the CIS, its immediate neighbors, with whom it is striving to create a common market. However, the Turk spiritual world does exist and these links should be developed. The most promising goal that is being posed is that of holding a conference on confidence-building measures throughout the Asian continent.

Nazarbayev Predicts Big Grain Exports

LD2210145494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1405 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Taranov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 22 Oct—In spite of all the difficulties in bringing in the grain, this year 19-20 million tonnes of grain have been harvested in Kazakhstan. The country's requirements are 6-8 million tonnes. President Nursultan Nazarbayev announced this at a news conference in the Moscow embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan today.

He said that harvesting had been completely finished in all areas in the republic, without any losses. For the first time in the history of Kazakhstan grain-growing, the republic had managed without bringing in any mechanized equipment and combines from outside. Everything has been brought in and stored in granaries. "We will have about 6-8 million tonnes of grain for export," Nursultan Nazarbayev said. "In general, all matters regarding supplying the republic with vegetables, fruit, and other sorts of food produce have been resolved. There will be no hunger and no cold in Kazakhstan. Electricity generating stations have been supplied with fuel for 65 days, just as they were in all the good years."

Agriculture Minister on Poor Harvest

LD2210140794 Almaty SOVETY KAZAKHSTANA in Russian 19 Oct 94 p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] The 1995 harvest promises to be more difficult than the present one. Agriculture Minister Zhanybek Karibzhanov met with representatives of the country's leading media to inform them about some results of this year's harvest.

According to Karibzhanov, harvesting was completed under the most difficult conditions: The weather did not help because sometimes the harvest was gathered in conditions of heat, at others in tropical rains. We had to write off some of the grain, although not a great amount, because of the drought and rain in Karaganda, Pavlodar, and Semipalatinsk regions. Nevertheless, due to the painstaking work of the farmers we gathered in the harvest. The country will have bread, the agriculture minister noted. A total of 17.8 million [metric] tonnes of grain has already been threshed and besides, Karibzhanov noted, we have picked 160,000 tonnes of raw cotton and 25-30 percent of sunflowers sown and half of the sugar beet crop has been harvested.

The minister of agriculture presented one more figure: Altogether the harvesting campaign needed 32 billion tenge, but they had to spend much less. So who knows, if they had received the money they were supposed to, maybe the harvest would have been bigger.

It was also noted that five million tonnes of grain must be bought for the state order (by the way currently 2.8 million tonnes has already been added to the state reserve) and one million provided for mixed feeds. Farms will have about 1.5-2 million tonnes of grain to sell themselves. As for selling the harvest, for example, to other CIS countries, Karibzhanov added that the international Kazakhstan exchange is instructed to ensure the sale in the areas dictated by the government. Anyone who wants to sell his grain will only have to apply for a license and there will be no problems.

As for the next harvest, the agriculture minister expressed the opinion that it will be even more difficult than this one. It is necessary to solve technical and pesticide problems, to determine which crops are in demand under market conditions, and the fields which yield a low harvest.

"We want every region to ensure their own supplies, the local authorities themselves must estimate their capabilities," Karibzhanov concluded.

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The journalists heard an unpleasant piece of news at the end of the meeting: The minister of agriculture said that restrictions on the price of mixed feeds will be lifted which, of course, will cause a rise in the price of meat. However, this matter is being studied and will be presented to the government for discussion.

Bread Price Hikes Cause Mass Discontent

LD2110140194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1320 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Akimov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Alma Ata [Almaty] October 21 TASS—Considerable bread price hikes introduced in Kazakhstan on October 15 are causing mass discontent, however so far the authorities managed to calm down the population.

The situation is quiet in some cities and towns, however panic seized quite a few settlements and, as authorities said, in some places it resulted "in active forms of discontent expression". They did not elaborate, however it is known that coal miners in Karaganda are on a round-the-clock duty at bakeries.

In Ust-Kamenogorsk low-income people came to the building of the local administration with the only question "how should we live?"

Head of the administration Yuriy Lavrinenko tried for three hours to talk the people to go home, but they agreed only after he promised to grant subsidies and decrease the bread price by a third.

It is hard to predict how the situation will develop. This year grain crops in Kazakhstan are lower than in 1993 and most evidently, bread prices will continue to grow. At present 60 per cent of bread is baked from last year grain.

Communists Reorganize in Pavlodar Region

LD2210120894 Almaty SOVETY KAZAKHSTANA in Russian 20 Oct 94 p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] Grassroots Communist organizations are being re-established in all the towns and the majority of districts of Pavlodar Region. There has been a party town committee in the region's center for more than a year.

Recently a regional party conference was held. A new draft program for the Kazakhstan Communist Party was discussed. A party regional committee was elected consisting of 21 communists, and seven delegates were chosen for the republican congress.

Kyrgyzstan

Statement on Effects of PRC Nuclear Test

LD2110214894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1745 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The nuclear tests carried out by China at the Lop Nur testing ground have an adverse impact on the Kyrgyz ecology and public health, according to a Foreign Ministry statement made public in Bishkek Friday [21 October].

China exploded a nuclear device in Lop Nur, 1000 kilometers from Kyrgyzstan, on October 7.

Bishkek is worried that other nuclear states may resume nuclear blasts. The statement emphasizes the need to set up an international commission to analyze the effects of tests in Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan, and Lop Nur.

Professor Kazimir Karimov, leader of the Lop Nur anti-nuclear movement, told INTERFAX that background radiation doubled on the Kyrgyz-Chinese border and increased by half around Lake Issyk-Kul following the explosion.

U.S. Agency Finances Gold Deposit Development

LD2310144294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1323 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The U.S. OPIC agency for financing and insuring private investments is ready to finance 70% of works on development of Dzherui, Kyrgyzstan's second largest gold deposit, with the participation of the U.S. MK Gold, OPIC President Ruth Harkin told INTERFAX.

The contract for granting a $87-million credit of OPIC to the future joint venture for development of the gold deposit and $158 million as an insurance against political risk was signed in Bishkek on October 21.

Head of the Kyrgyzaltyn State Concern (which has the monopoly right for extracting gold in the country) Dastan Sarygulov told INTERFAX that the financing of the project could begin only after the Kyrgyz government approved the feasibility study of the Dzherui project proposed by MK Gold. He said the feasibility study could be approved in early November.

The Dzherui deposit has 66.08 tonnes of gold already discovered and about 100 tonnes of gold more are expected to be found. The feasibility study was carried out by OPIC, Kilborn (Canada), Pincock, Allen & Holt (the U.S.) and Cominco Engineering Services (Canada).

Harkin said OPIC was interested in success of the project as this could help Kyrgyzstan to enlarge its economic relations with foreign countries, create more jobs and attract more investments. The project will create 420 jobs during the period of construction works. During the exploitation period the project will require 274 employees, including 79 engineers and managers. The project will give to Kyrgyzstan $71 million in the form of an income tax and $54 million of profits.

Harkin said the insurance against political risk, a measure applied in Kyrgyzstan for the first time, was an importance move which would help to attract more investments to the republic.

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Local Elections, Referendum Under Way

LD2210082994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0723 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Mainayev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bishkek October 22 TASS—The question on whether or not Kirghizia [Kyrgyzstan] should have a one-chamber parliament instead of the two-chamber parliament existing today has been put up for a referendum, which is being held in the republic today. The referendum will say yes or no to making corresponding amendments to the constitution, adopted on May 5, last year. Elections to local soviets (councils) are being held simultaneously with the referendum.

According to a presidential decree, the referendum will be regarded as valid, if more than 50 per cent of registered electors take part in it, and its resolution will be valid, if more than 50 per cent of those, who took part in the referendum, vote for it. The population of Kirghizia is 4.5 million, half of whom have the right to take part in elections.

Preliminary Data Provided

LD2210110194 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Kyrgyz 0000 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Today is local councils election day. Today is also referendum day and 5,828 polling stations are open in the republic. According to preliminary data, 2,271,279 voters will participate. By yesterday 8,557 candidates were registered, including 3,889 from working collectives, 3,718 from residential localities, 538 from various parties and movements and 300 are self-nominated candidates. Among the registered candidates 6,480 are white collar workers, 1,913 are blue collar and farmers, 148 are pensioners. Of all candidates, 980 are female. In most constituencies the elections are likely to be on the nonalternative basis. In 4,118 constituencies only one candidate from each constituency to the local councils has been nominated; 1,323 constituencies have registered two candidates each; 235 have registered three candidates each, and in 152 constituencies four and more candidates have been registered.

83.5 Percent Turnout Reported

LD2310144794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1423 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Central Election Commission for the Referendum on Amending the Constitution and the Local Elections in Kyrgyzstan told Interfax that 83.5

of voters had taken part in the referendum and the local elections on October 22.

The Central Election Commission said the telephone communication with several Kyrgyz regions was hindered by the sharply deteriorated weather conditions. Within the context of such a situation it is harder to sum up the results of the referendum. The results are expected to be summed up only after 15:00 (local time or 12:00 Moscow time), the Central Election Commission said.

In particular, the amendments of the Kyrgyz Constitution provide for establishing a two-chamber parliament.

Turnout by Region Reported

LD2310175394 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Kyrgyz 0000 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] According to Central Electoral Commission information, 58,828 polling stations and 2,215,000 electors have been registered in the republic.

According to preliminary data, voting has been registered in the republic as follows:

Bishkek City	35.70 percent
Chy Oblast	60.75 percent
Naryn Oblast	76.44 percent
Dzhalalabad Oblast	67.93 percent
Osh Oblast	70.76 percent
Talas Oblast	71.45 percent
Isykkol Oblast	70.89 percent

Bicameral Parliament Receives Support

LD2310174194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1726 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bishkek October 23 TASS—A total of 85 per cent of the Kyrgyz electorate said that the Constitution should be changed only through a referendum, according to the preliminary results of the nation-wide poll held in the republic on Sunday [23 October].

Eleven per cent answered in the negative. About four per cent of ballot papers have been announced invalid. Reports said that 87 per cent of the population eligible to voting took part in the referendum.

On the second question, principles of forming the republic's parliament, 84 per cent of voters said that the republic should have a two-house legislature. Slightly more than 11 per cent voted against. Officials said that 4-odd per cent of ballots were invalid.

President Akayev Comments

LD2210172594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1617 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Maynayev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bishkek October 22 TASS—"We need a strong local government system to enable local executive bodies tackle state problems," Kyrgyz

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President Askar Akayev told a briefing here today. The president participated in the elections of local councils and a referendum.

"These are our first local elections on a system that will help local power bodies to implement social and economic programs," said the president. "Our reforms are irreversible and nothing can make them stop".

In the words of Akayev, Kyrgyzia [Kyrgyzstan] has much progresses along the reform path, and market reforms require de-centralization of power.

"Certainly, conservatives wishing to slow down the reforms may be elected to local councils. But we must work with those elected no matter what their political outlook might be. That is the way I understand democracy and I keep to these principles myself," said Akayev.

The Kyrgyz parliamentary elections will be held on December 24, said the president.

Tajikistan

UN Observers Say Nazriyev's Death 'Accidental'

LD2110134294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The commanding officer of the UN observers in Tajikistan General Hassan Abaza refuses to see the mine explosion that took the life of Tajik Vice Premier Munavarsho Nazriyev as a cease-fire violation.

General Abaza said military observers wrote off Nazriyev's death as "accidental."

In the meantime, a high-ranking officer on the staff of Tajikistan's Security Ministry told Interfax that Nazriyev went up on a highly powerful landmine on the road to the Djaffr village of the Garmskiy District which lies some 230 kilometers off Dushanbe. Parts of Nazriyev's jeep were found 50 meters away from the explosion's ground zero. It appears that immediately after the explosion an unidentified armed man dressed up in army fatigues stopped a truck some 500 meters away from the site of the explosion. The truck belonged to a local collective farm. The man made the driver and his three passengers get off. He took the truck to the site of the explosion where five more armed men joined him to ride away.

Thursday evening the truck was found by the police near the Yangolik village of the Garmskiy District. Investigating officers assume that the six armed men either went to the mountains or were hiding in one of the local villages.

The investigating officers may yet be inclined to describe what happened Thursday as "premeditated murder." Neither the local authorities nor the law and order bodies had been advised that Nazriyev planned to visit the Garmskiy District. One bodyguard survived and was taken, with serious injuries, to hospital. He is unable to testify.

UN Envoy Views Inter-Tajik Peace Talks

LD2210214094 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Ramiro Piriz-Ballon, the UN Secretary General's special envoy in Tajikistan, is profoundly satisfied with the spirit of the third round of inter-Tajik talks, which began in Islamabad on Thursday [20 October]. Speaking at a briefing on Saturday after the completion of the third day of negotiations, he stressed that both sides realized the need for cooperation. In his words, they have a firm intention to find common ground and are showing a serious approach.

Piriz-Ballon noted that at this stage of the talks the sides are discussing the possibility of setting up a joint commission made up of representatives of the sides involved in the conflict. The commission's tasks are to include monitoring compliance with the temporary cease-fire agreement, which came into effect last Thursday.

UN Commander Wants Observers on Afghan Border

LD2110163394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1540 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Friday [21 October], the commanding officer of the UN observers in Tajikistan, General Hassan Abaza, told INTERFAX that at least 200 observers must be stationed on the 1700 kilometer border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan.

According to General Abaza, twelve observers are monitoring developments in Tajikistan and another five are to arrive in the republic on October 24. They will be positioned in Ayvadzh, Pyandzh and the town of Dusti, some 100 to 180 kilometers south of Dushanbe.

UN observers are monitoring the observance of the cease-fire agreement signed by government and opposition emissaries on October 17 in Tehran. The agreement entered force Thursday morning and is to remain effective until Tajikistan holds presidential elections and a constitutional referendum, on November 6.

As of date, military observers are positioned in Tavil-Dar (some 300 kilometers east of Dushanbe), Dushanbe and the southern city of Kurgan-Tyube.

The observers are working under the auspices of the UN mission in Tajikistan. In certain cases they will be expected to cooperate with the peacekeeping contingent of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Tajikistan.

They ride motor vehicles with UN markings and have radio stations and satellite communication. Regardless of where they may be, the observers will always be able to

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get in touch with the UN mission in Dushanbe, with General Abaza personally or with mission chief Livio Botha, General Abaza said.

Russian Command Concerned at Situation

LD2210134494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1310 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dushanbe October 22 TASS—The command of the Russian Frontier Guard Troops in Tajikistan has expressed serious concern over the incessant hostile actions of the irreconcilable opposition on the Tajik-Afghan border, despite the fact that the agreement on a temporary ceasefire in Tajikistan came into force on October 20.

Lieutenant General Anatoliy Chechulin, commander of the Russian Frontier Guard Troops in Tajikistan, came up with a statement today, which stressed the "unprecedented activity of demoislamic opposition".

While the ceasefire agreement was being prepared for signing, between September 17 and October 20, this year, nine armed men were arrested during the crossing of the state border, and 11 attempts of armed group to cross the river dividing Afghanistan and Tajikistan were stopped. In 31 cases frontier guard posts were fired at. Frontier guards had to engage in fighting with the enemy 24 times, as a result of which one Russian frontier guard was killed and another four injured.

According to Chechulin, the first days after the coming into forces of the ceasefire agreement were not an exception. On October 20 and 21, Russian frontier guards stopped three attempts of border-crossing by armed groups in the sector defended by the Khorgor Frontier Guard Detachment.

"In line with the interstate agreement of May 25, 1993, the Command of the Russian Frontier Guard Troops in Tajikistan reserves the right, and regards it as its obligation, to do its best for ensuring the reliable protection and defence of the Tajik-Afghan section of the border, using all types of armaments at its disposal. We are capable of stopping the violation of the border, using all the means that we have," the statement said.

The commander reiterated the readiness to continue business contacts with a group of U.N. military observers, who arrived in Tajikistan, and expressed hope that "their humane mission will promote the stabilisation of the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border, will create conditions that will rule out a possibility of illegal actions on the part of the armed demislamic groups, will help reduce the senseless casualties and will make it possible for the population of the border areas of Tajikistan to work peacefully."

Government, Opposition Talks End in 'Disarray'

LD2310164394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1602 GMT 23 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Kuzmin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Islamabad October 23 TASS—The fourth day of the third round of intra-Tajik talks ended in Islamabad on Sunday [23 October] in a disarray after both sides traded mutual recriminations and accused each other of the lack of progress.

Sources close to the delegations of the Tajik Government and the opposition told ITAR-TASS that the sides discussed issues related to the setting up of a joint commission to oversee the truce agreement.

Later in the day, the delegations met with Red Cross Committee officials to discuss the problem of prisoners of war and prisoners of conscience.

The Tajik official delegation is led by First Deputy Parliament Chairman Abdulmadjid Dostiyev. The opposition delegation is formally headed by Akbar Turajonzoda, but is actually controlled by Abdullo Nuri, leader of the Islamic Revival Movement.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Albert Chernyshov arrived in Islamabad on Sunday to head a group of Russian observers to the talks.

On the eve of the third round of talks on Thursday, local newspapers reported that the Pakistani police had arrested an Afghan citizen who tried to get into the Holiday Inn hotel where the talks were scheduled to take place. The police said the Afghan was armed with a gun and planned to carry out a terrorist act. No details of the incident were immediately available.

Opposition Fails to Observe Tehran Accords

LD2210082594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0720 GMT 22 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Dushanbe, 22 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—The Tajik opposition is not observing the Tehran accords on suspending combat operations from 20 October and on starting the process of a political settlement within the framework of the inter-Tajik talks.

A series of armed provocations against Russian border guards was carried out Friday [21 October] by the irreconcilables. In the evening one of the sections of the 12th border outpost of the Moskovskiy border detachment was shelled from the territory of Tajikistan. On the same day an attempt by mojahedin to penetrate Tajik territory from Afghanistan was foiled in the zone for which the Khorog border detachment is responsible.

In an interview with ITAR-TASS, Major Sergey Fatkullin, head of the press group of the Command of the Russian border troops in Tajikistan, described the situation on the border as complicated. [passage omitted]

Joint Commission To Monitor Cease-Fire

LD2110134994 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Russian 1000 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Government and opposition sides have agreed to form a joint commission to ensure

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the effective implementation of the agreement on a temporary cease-fire and cessation of other hostilities on the Tajik-Afghan border and inside the country.

From the opposition, television journalist Yusuf Hakimov, Zafar Rakhmonov, former head of the security department of the Dushanbe oil storage base, Saidmukhtor Mirzoyev, former militia lieutenant-colonel, Muhiddin Bahriddinov, a businessman, and Said Khashimov have joined the commission. They have arrived in Dushanbe and started carrying out their duties.

The UN observers' mission in Tajikistan will promote the work of the joint commission.

Rakhmonov Election Address

LD2210125094 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 0510 GMT 22 Oct 94

[Election address by Supreme Council Chairman Emomali Rakhmonov; place and date not given; passages contained within slantlines transcribed from Russian—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] //Dear fellow-countrymen, destiny has given me responsibility for the present and future of the country and nation at one of the most difficult times in the history of our people. All that our country and our people have been through in the past two years has been associated with my name, which on the whole is fair. I am sincerely delighted that the fires of civil war have been put out with your help and support. Local authorities have restored the previously paralyzed power structures. The borders are now sealed. The absolute majority of refugees have returned to their homes and have started normal lives. We have established the national army and border protection forces, and have struck blows against the elements who by trickery have penetrated into the system of state administration and law-enforcement organizations.

But unfortunately, a number of difficulties resulting from the war have not been overcome yet. In particular, cases of terror against people, the problems of entering the ruble zone, and supplying the population with grain have not been completely resolved, mainly because such top priority tasks as restoring peace, establishing a national army, and returning refugees have had to be resolved over the past two years. Of course, everyone has the right to hold his own view, but it is not possible to ignore those fundamental changes that have taken place in the political sphere over the recent period. Until 1992 we were unable to hold Supreme Council sessions. The Tajik nation today has been given the opportunity to approve the Constitution of the country and choose the president of the republic. That is why I consider the basic principles of my election program to be the continuation of my political program for the 16th session of the Supreme Council.// [passage omitted]

The opposition must realize that continuing the armed confrontation will lead to the collapse of the state and that innocent people are dying in every armed clash in Tajikistan. The innocent people of our republic are Tajiks, Uzbeks, Russians, Tartars, Kyrgyzs, and Kazakhs.

If this senseless hostility is not ended and the fratricidal confrontation, in which there are no and cannot be any winners, is not stopped the following generations will not forgive us. This is the core of national reconciliation. [Words indistinct] of the people of Tajikistan. That is exactly why I regard achieving unity of the people of Tajikistan, irrespective of who are they, what place and nationality they belong to, and what religion they profess as one of my main tasks.

The enemies of national unity, those who do not recognize the existence of our young state, have divided us into real and false Tajiks—people from Garm and Khodzhand, from Kulyab and Matcha, the Pamir and Gissar, Uzbeks and Russians, Muslims and kaffirs. I consider this a betrayal of the country and people and I will use my every right and opportunity to prevent the fomentation of discord in our society. I will always rely on the new [word indistinct] of Tajikistan in this.

As for the economic policy, I adhere to the opinion that production must be managed. The market economy cannot and must not develop spontaneously. As the experience of developed countries now shows us, it requires the end of the state monopoly in the economy. However, it would be a disastrous mistake to destroy the existing economy without having first constructed the building of the market economy. An effective economy, based on the market, must be the key aim of the economic policy in the republic.

We are connected by thousands of threads to the economies of Russia, Uzbekistan, and other countries. If our economic laws contradict the economic laws of these countries then things in our country will not go well. It is becoming more appreciable that foreign investors from Asia, the Middle and Far East, Europe, and North America are interested in Tajikistan. We are working with many enterprise structures and are ready to give them all-round support in connection with the creation of joint ventures and filling our market with necessary goods. We are for the development of such confident and mutually beneficial cooperation.

We will certainly create the right conditions in our country for the activities of foreign countries and joint ventures. We will provide comprehensive support for factories that produce goods for export. We will provide opportunities for local entrepreneurs to use their income to fund enterprises so that both they and the country will benefit. But in order to rid ourselves of the present economic disorder, first, we will privatize loss-making enterprises and ventures. At the same time, we will entrust services, trade, public meal provision enterprises, and other kinds of ownership, in particular joint-stock, lease-holding, and private ventures, with the task of strengthening the public sector and we will set up

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strict procedures to supervise it. Otherwise, under the present circumstances in Tajikistan, poverty will spread rapidly among the population.

An important task in solving economic problems to enter the ruble zone and secure guarantees that funds will remain in Tajikistan and will be used to provide backing for the policy of capital investment.

I will do my best to settle the problem of unifying the monetary system with Russia by the end of the year. We will increase the production of fine quality goods in the light and meal production industries and at the same time, we will limit the import of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and similar foreign goods in order to keep the money we earn inside Tajikistan. We will take the use of foreign currency under our control and will fix severe punishments for taking money out of Tajikistan illegally and for undeclared investment.

I will endeavor to strengthen the national army and law and order organizations with personnel who are faithful to the nation and the motherland in order to help them to become reliable defenders of the tranquillity, safety, and unity of our compatriots.

Let us eradicate crime, theft, and bribery and provide the real workers with appropriate conditions for beneficial, economic production activity.

I fully acknowledge that every crime committed by personnel of law and order bodies is seen by our people as a crime committed by the state. One of the reasons for the increased number of crimes and the strengthening of various sorts of Mafia, including the economic and political Mafia, is down to incompetence and a lax attitude and, in some cases, it is due to lack of respect toward the personnel of the bodies for maintaining law and order.

The time has now come to support the faithful law and order workers and root out those of their rank who accept bribes, break the laws, and of all them who came to this organization with the help of their friends, or because of tribalism and bribery. A special organ for fighting against criminals and bribery will be set up in the president's office.

The land, the water, and the air of Tajikistan is sufficient to feed and dress all of us if we make sensible use of it. Unfortunately, we are paying little attention to our farmers who are our basic providers. I will put right this injustice and will endeavor to give top priority to two things: Farming and energy. I will resolutely demand that unused and hilly land is distributed among residents. I am against hastily abolishing the collective and state farms. I will assist these farms to exist and to act individually. [passage omitted]

We are respectfully prepared to give a positive response and establish friendly relations with any country wanting to cooperate with us, provided that this cooperation corresponds to the provisions of our Constitution and does not undermine the freedom of our people.

Brothers and sisters, my manifesto is based on the fact that nothing is above the law in Tajikistan. No one should be humiliated. Society should not be divided into first and second classes. Everybody should work according to his abilities and own property. Nobody should use force against anyone else, everybody should be assured that the state will protect him and his property. Be healthy.

Deputies Seek Security Guarantees During Campaign

LD2410111094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1027 GMT 24 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 24 TASS—A group of deputies to the republican parliament and the Leninabad regional council from among supporters of Abdumalik Abdulodzhanov, a candidate for the Tajik presidency (there are two candidates for the post of Tajik president—Abdulojanov and Speaker of the Tajik Parliament Emomali Rakhmonov), demanded that Leninabad authorities impose a state of emergency throughout the presidential election campaign in the region situated in northern Tajikistan.

ITAR-TASS learned at the press centre of Abdulojanov's support group that the above deputies sent an appeal this morning to chairman of the Leninabad regional council Solikhadzhi Makhmudov to call immediately a special session of the regional council which will discuss issues on clamping down immediately a special passport regime on the region to hold truly democratic and free elections.

The deputies also claimed that such a regime will help to prevent falsification of balloting papers.

The group also made a proposal on setting up special check points on highways, the railway station and the Leninabad airport to prevent people without permanent registration in the region as well as illegal armed gangs from infiltrating into the region.

The appeal also stresses the need for establishing a temporary moratorium on the export from the region of foodstuffs and consumer goods until the region fulfills the plan for supplying residents of the region with these goods for winter time.

The group states in the appeal that the above proposals were prompted by numerous facts of pressure on voters and supporters of Abdulojanov by unidentified armed people with no permanent registration in the region as well as facts of illegal export by them of consumer goods, foodstuffs and fuel directly from warehouses of industrial and agricultural enterprises.

Group Says Authorities Breaking Election Law

LD2210163994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1435 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In its statement published in Dushanbe Saturday [22 October], an initiative group for

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supporting Abdumalik Abudllodzhanov, a Tajik presidential candidate, has accused the authorities of "violating the law on presidential elections."

According to the document, the authorities created "information blockade" around Abdullodzhayev, he was "actually deprived of his airtime on the radio and television, obstacles are created locally during his meetings with the electorate."

A total of two candidates will race for the Tajik presidency on November 6, including the former Tajik prime minister, now Ambassador to Russia Abdumalik Abdullodzhanov, and the current parliamentary speaker, Emomali Rakhmonov. The two candidates are carrying out their election campaigns.

Uzbekistan

Karimov Arrives in Beijing for 3-Day Visit

LD2410101394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0929 GMT 24 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Tomilin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Beijing, 24 Oct—Uzbek President Islam Karimov arrived in Beijing today for a three-day official visit. He is expected to have talks with Chinese President Jiang Zemin this evening. The heads of states will discuss in detail the development of bilateral ties in various fields and a range of international issues that are of concern both to Beijing and Tashkent.

This is the Uzbek president's second visit to China. During his first visit, in the spring of 1994, a package of bilateral agreements on cooperation in the sphere of economy, culture, and education were signed.

Karimov Receives Swiss Company Chiefs

LD2110152394 Tashkent NARODNOYE SLOVO in Russian 21 Oct 94 p1

[FBIS Translated Text] President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov yesterday received P. Barnevik, the president of the Swiss ABB Company, and K. MacCartney, the head of the company's representative office for Central Asia and Kazakhstan.

Islam Karimov briefly acquainted his guests with the economic reforms being implemented in Uzbekistan.

Islam Karimov said "Establishing mutual cooperation with the world-famous ABB company will undoubtedly be beneficial to both sides. I think your visit to our country will be fruitful and it will serve the cause of further developing our relationships."

P. Barnevik expressed his gratitude for the warm reception and talked about the activities of his company, which specializes in power engineering and oil refining. He emphasized that there are great possibilities for expanding cooperation with Uzbekistan.

Deputy prime ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan Utkir Sultanov and Kayim Haqqulov took part in the reception.

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Armenia

IMF Plans To Grant $500 Million Credit

LD2210172494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1549 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The International Monetary Fund (IMF) plans to grant Armenia a credit worth $500 million, the head of the government press office, Vladimir Manoyan, told Interfax. He commented on the outcomes of talks between the Armenian government presided over by Prime Minister Grant Bagratian and an IMF delegation headed by the head of the southern department of the European Unit, Mohammed Shadman, which ended Saturday [22 October].

According to Manoyan, the two sides reached a principal agreement on a number of issues concerning Armenia's economic situation such as a liberalization of the prices of bread, transportation fares, electricity rate and communal utilities as well as reducing the budget deficit and raising taxes. IMF officials also coordinated Armenia's draft budget for 1995 with its government.

The Armenian media reported that the government planned to increase the prices of bread, electricity rate and communal utilities by ten times as of November 1. Under IMF requirements, the prices of bread, transportation fares and communal utilities are to be completely liberalized this autumn.

Manoyan said the IMF board of directors will decide on granting Armenia the credit in December, after the Saturday agreements are finally approved.

Turkish, Armenian Journalists Agree To Cooperate

NC2210080094 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1930 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Babken Ararktsian, chairman of the Armenian Supreme Council, on 20 October received the representatives of 14 Turkish news agencies who are on a visit to Armenia.

The Supreme Council press service informed ARMENPRES that the chairman of the parliament explained the position of the Armenian authorities on numerous issues in response to questions from foreign reporters.

On the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict—which was the main subject raised by the reporters—the prospects for the development of Armenian-Turkish interstate relations in view of this conflict, the blockade imposed on Armenia, and the deployment of peacekeeping forces in Nagorno-Karabakh, Babken Ararktsian noted that the position of Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh has always been constructive, as shown by their positive approach to the peace plans of international organizations and individual countries, as well as by the six-month cease-fire under the Bishkek protocol. The heads of the parliaments of Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh signed the protocol without any preconditions.

At the request of the Turkish reporters, Babken Ararktsian also spoke on the historic sources of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and prospects for its solution within the framework of international norms. As a step to restore the atmosphere of mutual confidence, Babken Ararktsian recalled Armenia's proposal to unilaterally allow Turkey, Nakhichevan, and Azerbaijan to make use of the transportation routes of Armenia, a proposal that so far has not been acknowledged.

Finally, the chairman of the Armenian Supreme Council appealed to the representatives of the mass media of Turkey to publish objective reports on Armenia and to assist in the reduction of tension in the region.

The representatives of the major papers and news agencies in Armenia held a meeting at the Journalists' House yesterday with their Turkish colleagues, who were representing a number of Turkish papers and television stations.

Following an introductory statement by Aram Safaryan, head of the Foreign Ministry's press service, the sides engaged in an active conversation. After exchanging information on the papers they represent, the Armenian and Turkish reporters discussed matters relating to publishing and assessing Armenian-Turkish relations in the press. Both sides stressed the need to obtain direct information from each other, to go beyond the existing interstate relations by making use of the press, and to follow up on this first meeting between the Armenian and Turkish reporters.

Visit Monument to Genocide Victims

NC2110203294 Yerevan SNARK in English 1445 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan, October 21 (SNARK)—Today, 17 Turkish journalists visited the Memorial to the Victims of Armenian 1915 Genocide in Osmanian [Ottoman] Turkey.

One of the members of Turkish delegation informed SNARK that the program of their stay in Armenia had been compiled by Armenian Foreign Ministry. He also added that they are getting acquainted with that complex with great interest, like in China they would have certainly visited the Great Chinese Wall.

During their four-day stay in Armenia, the delegation of Turkish journalists met with the speaker of Armenian Parliament Babken Ararktsian, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Vahan Papazian and also with the leaders of different political forces of the republic.

The Turkish journalists' trip to Armenia had been sponsored by "Lensei" Russian-Armenian collaborate company's department in Armenia. The head of this company, Harutyun Grigorian in his interview to SNARK

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said that the contact of the journalists of the two countries will enable to form a favorable public view. This will help to develop economic contacts between Armenia and Turkey, who have not established diplomatic relations yet.

Supreme Soviet Chairman on Karabakh Issue, Turkey

TA2110185694 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1600 GMT 21 Oct 94

[Announcer-read report]

[FBIS Translated Text] Armenian Supreme Soviet Chairman Babken Ararktsian has declared that if Azerbaijan guarantees the Armenians in Karabakh the right to self-determination, the occupied Azerbaijani territories will be returned. Ararktsian met with a group of Turkish journalists, who are currently visiting Yerevan as the guests of the Armenian Government. TRT correspondent in Yerevan Ahmet Yesiltepe reports:

[Begin Yesiltepe recording] Ararktsian declared that the Karabakh problem can be resolved through political negotiations and mutual concessions. The cease-fire between the two sides must be maintained if an atmosphere of security is to be established in the region, Ararktsian said, adding that a lasting solution can be achieved when the status of Karabakh is determined. Recalling that the Armenians in Karabakh have declared their independence but that this has not yet been recognized by Armenia, Ararktsian noted: We view this action, however, as involving the right to self- determination.

Referring to the territories held by the Armenians in Karabakh and its surroundings, the Supreme Soviet chairman conceded that some of these territories are occupied territories. Ararktsyan explained that the situation in Karabakh is no longer at the top of the international community's agenda but that Armenia will comply with all the UN resolutions adopted in connection with the problem.

Ararktsian declared that Armenia attaches great importance to its relations with Turkey and expressed the hope that a dialogue based on mutual interests and trust will be established between the two countries. He continued by saying: We regard Turkey as a big country in the region. We must dwell on the factors that unite rather than those that separate the two countries. We can thus overcome this difficult period in a short time.

The Armenian Supreme Soviet chairman remarked that his country is experiencing an acute energy shortage and wants to cooperate with Turkey with a view to resolving this problem. [end recording]

State Minister Views Preparations for Winter

NC2110204394 Yerevan SNARK in English 1445 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan, October 21 (SNARK)—Armenian State Minister Gagik Martirosyan thinks that Armenia is ready for coming winter. During his press-conference today, he declared that unlike the last winter, when the question of minimum provision was standing, government worked out some measures for normal functioning of the production in winter time.

According to Martirosyan, from needed 65 cubic meters [numbers as received] of gas they already had 50, and from 170 thousand tonnes of mazut nearly 90 had already been provided.

Nearly 2,000 flats will be heated in Yerevan in winter, which is by 1,300 more than last year. But houses with heating will be provided with minimum energy. It is expected, that daily, population of Yerevan will have nearly 4 hours of light.

Socially unprotected walks of population, divided into 13 groups, will be given 140 liters of "humanitarian" kerosene for each family. Schools will also be provided with kerosene, calculated on the basis of 4 liters a class daily.

Azerbaijan

Izmir Pan-Turkish Congress' Importance Stressed

NC2110215694 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 21 Oct 94

[Report by Esmira Cerkezkizi]

[FBIS Translated Text] These days when the slogan "I am a Turk", in which we used to take a secret pride, has come into the open from hiding and we now repeat it with accentuated pride, and growing numbers of invincible Turkic flags require the Turkic states to strike the hammer on the anvil. [an allusion to Turkic epic symbolizing emancipation]

The Second Turkic States and Peoples Friendship, Brotherhood, and Cooperation Congress, which opened in Izmir yesterday, is continuing its work today with the participation of the Azerbaijani delegation. The aim and objective of the blood brothers, whose language, religion and race are identical, of the Turks, who once upon a time made a name in history with their skills, fame, invincibility, and bravery [words indistinct], is to support peace in the world, to pursue the goals of Turkism under a single flag, and to glorify the word Turk.

Every single son of the homeland who now bear the glorious name of Turk has no right to feel a stranger on lands where Turks live.

[Recorded excerpt from Turkish President Suleyman Demirel's address to Izmir congress] This flag [the Turkish flag] belongs to all those who at present have not attained their independence or are in slavery and who consider themselves members of the Turkish community. We have already declared that this land—that is, this homeland called Turkey—is the homeland of all those who at present find themselves in difficulty and

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distress and say: I do not know what to do, I have no place to go [words indistinct]. [applause] The noble Turkish people living in this country have never forgotten their brethren—be they on the Urals or Altay mountains, in every corner of Asia; that is, their brethren living in their ancient homeland, all their brethren without a single exception—and they have felt good when these brethren were fine and sorrow when they were in distress. Thank God Almighty, one flag has mutated into seven flags, seven flags. [applause] [end recording]

The glorious flags of the states, which are the branches of the proudly upright and unbending tree and which once were represented by a single Turkish flag, are fluttering in the loftiest assemblies today. Turks are now looking with confidence at their common past and future. The Turk never forgets his enemy, because he has often tasted the bitter pain of forgetting his enemy. With its uniqueness and unity, the common Turkish culture, which even now dazzles the Europeans, has been an appropriate reply to those who have made claims on the Turks' history and lands.

The congress, which is being held on Turkish soil and which calls on world Turks to unite, is continuing its deliberations.

Turkic Summit Praised, CIS Summit Berated

NC2110195294 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 21 Oct 94

[Commentary by Neriman Elikhanbeyli]

[FBIS Translated Text] The exceedingly numerous pressing problems in the political life of Azerbaijan and the ample lessons learned during the October events could play an important role in reassessing our republic's domestic and foreign policies.

Could the meeting of the heads of state of CIS countries in the Russian capital in the wake of the summit in Istanbul cast a shadow on the results obtained in Turkey? Though there are many who want to cast a shadow on Istanbul summit, the fact is that the 24-point declaration signed by the presidents of six Turkic states explained to the entire world the aim of the meeting, which had only good intentions.

To slander the summit that was held by independent states for peace, independence, and progress, and to consider it as putting pressure on another country can only be defined as a wrongful approach at the very east. Those who have become worried at the expansion of ties between peoples sharing a common history, language, and culture are trying to exploit the Istanbul summit in their political give and take.

In the opinion of the representative of the Russian Foreign Ministry, not only Russia but the whole world will oppose that summit. The reasoning behind this can be found in the view expressed by [deputy director of Russian Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Department Mikhail] Demurin, whose name is often mentioned in the Turkish press: Such wrong steps could encourage ethnic strife in the CIS.

In view of the fact that it is crystal clear who is fomenting ethnic strife in the CIS and when, it is highly unlikely that such frivolous and ill-intentioned views will be accepted by objective politicians.

Uzbekistan President Islam Karimov's view is closer to the truth: The agreement between Turkic states cannot be exploited for give and take purposes.

As for the CIS, which has so far been unable to prove its indispensablilty and permanence, its failures do not rest in the independent policies of the independent states, but in the lack of a working mechanism, in clashes between the member countries, in claims of patronage, in efforts to transform the CIS into imperialism under any guise, and in its standard approach to the solution of the internal problems.

The recent actions of this institution, which rejects integration and restoration of the former economic ties, is causing considerable damage to Azerbaijan and many other republics. The stoppage of railway traffic has not only caused billions' worth of damage to Azerbaijan but also deprived it of vital goods, including much needed foodstuffs. It is obvious that cooperation within a union is regarded by certain circles as a way of extending influence over others.

The economic integration of the countries, the establishment of an interstate economic commission, and other complex issues will be discussed during the meeting of the heads of state of CIS countries. At the suggestion of Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev, the proposal to create a Eurasian union will also be placed on the agenda.

Following the meeting, held with the participation of 12 countries, the Russian president told reporters that a memorandum was signed today according to which an interstate economic commission has been established; it will be headquartered in Moscow.

Regardless of whether or not the future talks determine the indispensability of these efforts, no rapid change in developments can be expected.

Russian Obstructions Trouble Azeri Railways

NC2110185294 Baku TURAN in English 1029 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku, October 21 (TURAN)—Today the Chief of Azerbaijan's Railway Department, Vakhid Nadirli, together with the delegation headed by President Aliyev left for the meeting of Coordination Council of the [CIS] Heads of State. The issue concerning resumption of traffic of Russian railway will be discussed during the meeting as well.

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Deputy Chief of Transportation Service of Azerbaijani railway, Teymur Mamedov, said that presently Russia does not permit trains travelling to Azerbaijan through its railways. 1,500 cars travelling to Azerbaijan are stopped on North-Caucasian railway and 1,200 cars travelling to Azerbaijan are stopped on the border of Russia and Ukraine. The cars are full of building materials and consumer products. 2,000 cars with consumer products travelling to the north are stopped on Azeri railway.

Teymur Mamedov said we found the way out and presently we ship food products to Azerbaijan through Astrakhan port. "40-45 cars with 3,000 tons each [as received] are shipped to Azerbaijan every day", he added.

It should be mentioned that traffic on North-Caucasian railway was suspended on September 7, 1994 by the decree of Russia's Ministry [remainder of item not received].

Aliyev on Conditions for Cooperation With CIS

NC2110152194 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1300 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev left for the Russian capital today to take part in the high-level meeting of the heads of state of CIS countries in Moscow. Acting Prime Minister Fuat Guliyev will take part in the meeting of the heads of government.

Our reporter Gulu Muherremov interviewed the Azerbaijani president at Bina airport:

[Begin recording] [Muherremov] What issues will be discussed at the meeting, and are any complications expected for Azerbaijan?

[Aliyev] As you know, the issues under discussion have been reported on the television. You know them better then I do, and therefore I will not take your time in enumerating them. Azerbaijan has its own position. We have defended these positions since joining the CIS. We will continue to defend them. We will agree to anything that is not detrimental to Azerbaijan's independence and which will promote Azerbaijan's integration with the international community and economy. We will not agree to anything that would be detrimental to our interests. [end recording]

Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev was seen off by Chairman of Supreme Soviet Rasul Guliyev, the deputy chairmen of the Supreme Soviet, state advisers, deputy prime ministers, ministers, heads of committees and enterprises, and other officials.

Guseynov's Supporters Gathering in Dashkesan

NC2110220194 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1930 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] According to information obtained by the Azerbaijani KHABAR SERVICE news agency, many of the supporters of former Azerbaijani prime minister Suret Guseynov are hastily leaving Baku for Dashkesan Rayon. According to some reports, forces loyal to Guseynov are now gathering there.

The authorities have not yet found and detained the former prime minister. What is significant is that even the representatives of the law enforcement organs have no idea where to look for Guseynov.

Observers feel that even if the supporters of the former prime minister have indeed gathered in such a place, it is unlikely to have serious consequences for the authorities because after the October events the Azerbaijani leadership is watchful and will not allow developments to take a turn detrimental to it.

Guseynov Accuses Aliyev of Masterminding Coups

NC2110222194 Paris AFP in English 2154 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, Oct 21 (AFP)—Azerbaijan's ousted prime minister Surat Guseynov accused President Geydar Aliyev of masterminding coups in the former Soviet republic, in a statement released by the Azerbaijani news agency TURAN Friday.

The statement, addressed to the president, to the United Nations and to ambassadors in Baku follows accusations by Aliyev last week that Guseynov was fomenting military rebellion in his stronghold at Ganja, the country's second city.

Amid allegations that Guseynov had oeen preparing a coup, Aliyev began a purge of government ministers and officials.

Guseynov supported a military coup in 1993 which enabled Aliyev, a former communist party secretary, to come to power. He later became prime minister although diplomatic sources said he became embittered by lack of power.

An earlier coup, in 1992, overthrew former communist party secretary Ayaz Mutalibov.

Guseynov's statement accused Aliyev of aiming to "come to power at all costs, using his large network of secret agents built up during the (Soviet) years."

He said it was these agents "who created for Aliyev his image as father of the nation."

Guseynov said Aliyev had initiated "massive repression against his opponents."

In a reference to an eight-billion dollar oil contract with a western consortium in September, Guseynov said Aliyev had "shamefully sold oil, Azerbaijan's principle resource, to the West."

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He said all the money earned from the transactions went to "private accounts in foreign banks" accusing Aliyev's clan of earning five percent of the oil contract.

"I opposed the wasting of national resources. I was immediately put on the list of enemies of the nation and called a traitor," the statement said.

Aliyev Accused of Assassination Attempts

NC2210175794 Baku TURAN in English 1219 GMT 22 Oct 94

["Appeal of Azeri Ex-Premier"—TURAN headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku, October 20 (TURAN)—"The developments of the latest 5-6 years, struggle for power and internal confrontations brought Azerbaijan to civil war. The root of all these confrontations is in President Aliyev's staff appointment policy, which is based on clan principles", reads Suret Huseynov's appeal to Azeri nation, all political parties, UN Commissariat for Protection of Human Rights, ambassadors of foreign states and President Aliyev.

President Aliyev's staff and he himself persistently have been trying to do away with all those who spare neither efforts nor expense to bring the country out of its serious crisis. "Geydar Aliyev was ideological leader of all coups, which were carried out in Azerbaijan after 1990. The purpose of his activity was to come to power by any means. President Aliyev used his agents to create the image of 'father of nation' for himself," reads the statement.

During a year and four months of his power, social, political, economic and military situation in Azerbaijan worsened. "The crisis in those spheres reached its maximum point due to anti-governmental illegal activities of President Aliyev's clan and harassment of its opponents".

"Being the prime-minister I had no opportunity to exert influence on any sphere of life of the country. Structure of the Cabinet, lack of any duties and appointment of all officials by President Aliyev himself did not give me opportunity for that".

"Oil—the major wealth of Azerbaijan—is sold by President Aliyev's staff at the head of [which is] Rasul Guliyev. More than year Aliyev's clan sells diesel fuel to the West through the territory of Iran. And the capital from oil selling are on the personal accounts of the members of Aliyev's clan in foreign banks. The members of President Aliyev's clan received 5 per cent or 2.5 billion dollars for conclusion of the "contract of century" with Western consortium. I tried to prevent natural resources from embezzlement but for that I was included in the list of enemies of the nation and called a 'traitor'.

"I was the major political figure, who contributed to President Aliyev's coming to power. Realizing that the myth 'about outstanding public figure' melts like snow on the sun, President Aliyev decided to put all problems existing in the country on me and to continue his political career", reads Suret Guseynov.

October developments, including escape of four prisoners from isolator of the Ministry of National Security and the murder of two persons from Aliyev's clan, Afiaddin Jalilov and Shamsi Ragimov, were carefully planned by Geydar Aliyev. After that Prosecutor General, Ali Omarov, was removed with the help of Rovshan and Makhir Javadovs. President Aliyev removes useless to him Prosecutor and outlaws brothers Javadov, who played an important role in Geydar Aliyev's coming to power, reads the statement.

"Beginning in April several attempts on my life has been made. However, they were avoided and I know that they were authorized by President Aliyev himself. It is no secret since everybody knew about it. When President Aliyev failed to kill me, he played a scenario on October 4 in Ganja. Geydar Aliyev managed it but his success is temporary", reads Suret Guseynov.

"Crimes of President Aliyev's clan cannot continue for ever and I call on everybody, who hear me, to support me. One can neither let civil war in the country nor turning the whole country into criminal clan", reads Suret Guseynov's statement.

Fugitive Ex-Premier Reportedly Moved to Russia

NC2210181094 Baku TURAN in English 1219 GMT 22 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku, October 21 (TURAN)—Tonight special subdivision of Russian special services (it is proposed that it was the group "Vimpel") took to Russia from the territory of Gabala Radio Locatory Station (in 300 kilometres to North-West from Baku) the ex-premier Suret Guseynov and former Defence Minister of Azerbaijan Rahim Gaziyev, TURAN knew from the informed sources. According to the same sources, after the escape from the isolator of the Ministry of National Security on September 2[illegible], Rahim Gaziyev stayed in Gabala on the territory of that Russian object. Ex-premier Suret Guseynov also arrived there on October 12. According to the information Guseynov and Gaziyev had been taken by helicopter and delivered to one of Russian military bases in Northern Caucasus.

Thus, the Azeri Government's upholding that Russia participated in October events in Azerbaijan has been partially confirmed. It can be suggested most probably that in near future Guseynov and Gaziyev will be in Moscow and will join Mutalibov. Judging by all it is not a secret for official Baku. So far, on the eve TURAN was told by Ramil Usubov, Interior Minister that "those who rebel on October 4 in Ganja, soon will try a new attempt."

But at the same time, official bodies in Baku neither confirmed nor refuted that information.

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Georgia

World Bank Delegation Visits Economy Ministry

LD2310115994 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0800 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A World Bank delegation led by Ms. (Michele Giro) paid an official visit to the Georgian Ministry of Economy. The delegation was met by Minister Vladimir Papava, and by Deputy Ministers Nodar Kulumbegashvili and Otar Kakauridze.

The World Bank representatives showed interest in the land reform which is under way in Georgia, its appropriate legislative basis, and existing difficulties.

Problems facing privatization were also considered at the meeting. The visitors showed special interest in the fate of unprofitable enterprises and the enterprises which will remain under state ownership. The search for ways to break the monopoly of the bread and bakery products corporation was also considered.

At the end of the visit to the ministry, Ms. (Michele Giro) said that the World Bank is eager for information about all the issues discussed during the meeting and will further assist the Georgian Government in tackling existing problems.

No Agreement on Deploying CIS Peacekeepers

LD2110140994 Tbilisi SAKINFORM in Russian 1133 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Participants of the Moscow meeting of the heads of CIS states' diplomatic and military departments have failed to reach agreement on deploying CIS peacekeeping forces alongside Russian peacekeepers in the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict zone. Only Tajikistan agreed to send one company. Other CIS countries are ready to send observers to the conflict zone.

Georgian-Abkhazian Talks Postponed Until Mid-Nov

LD2110202394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1905 GMT 21 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] United Nations October 21 TASS—The Georgian-Abkhazian talks in Geneva have been postponed again, this time till mid-November, official representative of the United Nations Secretary-General Ahmad Fawzi said here today.

It was earlier announced that the Georgian-Abkhazian negotiations in Geneva were postponed till late October. This time they are postponed again, this time till November. The negotiations will, possibly, be held from November 15 through 17 in Geneva, said Fawzi.

He said that the reason for the negotiations postponement is the upcoming visit of the United Nations secretary-general to the area. Both sides agreed to postpone the talks till the end of the visit.

Front Leaders Hold News Conference

LD2310213294 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1900 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Contact news agency has sent us information from the head of state's press secretariat that National Liberation Front leaders Tengiz Sigua, Tengiz Kitovani, and Irakli Surguladze held a news conference in the Rustaveli Society session hall in Tbilisi today.

The main topic of the news conference was General Vasiliy Yakushev's well-known interview published in PRAVDA on 21 October. Tengiz Sigua told the news conference that it would be inappropriate to excuse Yakushev because PRAVDA could prove the accuracy of the information.

Kitovani and Sigua gave a negative assessment of the head of state's policies. They announced that the front's aim was to use various political methods in its activity and to increase Georgia's military strength. They also expressed a categorical protest in connection with what they said were attempts by certain circles to allow Meskhetian Turks into Georgia. The news conference also heard that there were forces in Russia that did not support the policies of the Russian authorities in relation to Georgia and that the National Liberation Front had some contacts with these forces. The movement Russia's Choice was named as one of such forces.

In conclusion Sigua and Kitovani took questions from journalists.

Refugee Committee Appeals to UN, CIS Leaders

LD2310120094 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 23 Oct 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Coordinating Committee of refugees from Abkhazia has sent an appeal to UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali and the CIS heads of state. The authors of the document are dissatisfied with the progress of a settlement to the Georgia-Abkhazia conflict, including guaranteeing the safety of the returning refugees. The committee demands that an order be introduced on these issues, otherwise the committee intends to raise the question of confidence in both the Russian peacekeeping forces and the international organizations who have sent their observers.

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Team Formed To Manage Economic Reform

LD2310104294 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0800 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] We present an edict by the Georgian head of state on establishing an interim team for efficient analysis and control over economic reform.

In order to secure the making of prompt decisions to promote the trouble-free and speedy progress of the current economic reform and the improvement of the socioeconomic situation:

1. An interim team for efficient analysis and control over the progress of the economic reform shall be established at the economic directorate of the office of the Georgian head of state;

2. Nikoleishvili, the chief state adviser of the office of the Georgian head of state, and State Adviser Mikeladze are authorized to head the interim team;

3. The team for efficient analysis and control shall promptly analyze the progress of the measures required by the economic reform, shall establish strict control over the implementation of the corresponding decrees and edicts issued by the Georgian head of state, shall specify the priority of the processes and indices, and shall submit progress reports with inferences and propositions to the head of state.

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Estonia

Meri Nominates Tarand for Premier

LD2010180594 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1700 GMT 20 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Lennart Meri nominated Andres Tarand as a new candidate for the post of prime minister today. Andres Tarand was elected into the Riigikogu on the list of the Moderates electoral pact in the 1992 elections. Andres Tarand is the environment minister in Mart Laar's government.

Outlines Priorities

LD2110172994

[FBIS Editorial Report] Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian at 0700 GMT on 21 October broadcasts a five-minute report on President Lennart Meri's 20 October nomination of Environment Minister Andres Tarand as a candidate for the post of prime minister.

The report adds that consultations with Riigikogu representatives indicate that Tarand would get a wider mandate than the previous government, Meri said in his 20 October statement.

Speaking to Estonian Radio, President Lennart Meri noted that only a few months remain until the scheduled elections in March 1995. Emphasizing the significance of the interim government, the president outlined the main tasks for the possible government which Tarand would form: "The most important issue is preserving the continuity of our foreign policy and speedy integration into Europe. All this has to be based on international law. This is one of the most important conditions for Estonia's security.

"For the sake of state security, a lot should be done immediately to protect internal stability and order, to give you a feeling of security today and in the future. The feeling of security cannot be provided if the government thinks only in the short term. One should also think about the impact that today's decision will have in five, 10, or 50 years time."

Meri goes on to say: "This is the first government crisis under the Constitution which came into force on 3 July 1992. We should also prove to our partners that all participants in this procedure are aware of their responsibility to the state, to the people, and to the Constitution. Estonia's independence depends on our will and international trust. We are granted international trust if we behave as a society based on law, follow democratic principles, preserve the continuity of foreign policy, keep our promises, and are honest to ourselves and to our partners."

The report adds that in a Tallinn radio interview on 20 October, Andres Tarand explained why he is prepared to accept the post of prime minister: "The main reason is a rather regrettable alienation between the Toompea [seat of government] and the people, in other words between the electorate and the bodies of power—the Riigikogu and the government. If at all possible, this alienation should at least be halted. This means that one must play on until scheduled elections and not rush into unscheduled elections in muddy December."

Tarand concluded that he would not expect any dramatic changes in his possible government or in its policies.

UN Official Views Russian Minority's Status

LD2110141594 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 2000 GMT 20 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Estonian Government has a constructive approach to the issue of human rights. This is what Jose Ayala Lasso, the UN high commissioner for human rights, told a news conference today. The high commissioner highlighted Estonian government representatives' positions in connection with the changes made to the status of the temporary travel documents for individuals who live in Estonia but whose citizenship has as yet not been determined. Ayala Lasso also highlighted the government's desire to deal with the issue of the minorities living in Estonia. Further, he raised the issue of changing temporary travel documents; the present document allowing a single journey would become a document allowing multiple exits and returns to and from the country.

Ayala Lasso spent two days in Estonia during his Baltic trip and then left for the Nordic countries. Two weeks prior to his visit to the Baltic countries, he met Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev in Geneva, and the latter asked him to pay attention to the Russian minority living in both Estonia and Latvia. In order to attain respect for human rights, present problems must be acknowledged and, in Ayala Lasso's view, at the level of both the governments and the population, everybody must have equal human rights regardless of their language or place of residence. At the same time, according to Ayala Lasso, one must not link human rights to political fighting, as was done during the Cold War period. Ayala Lasso said also that the rights of women and children must receive attention.

UK Foreign Secretary Supports Independence

LD2110164794 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1300 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd made a short visit to Estonia today and spoke with journalists. Priit Ennet reports.

[Ennet] British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd spent only a few hours in Estonia. He arrived by plane from St. Petersburg and left for Helsinki in the afternoon. In addition to meeting the Estonian foreign minister, prime minister, and president, he found an hour to walk around Tallinn's old town. More important than the

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duration of the visit is that Hurd, a top world politician accompanying the queen on her tour, found time to visit a small, recently independent state which aspires to integrate into Western European structures.

The British foreign secretary told journalists in Kadriorg [in Tallinn] that Britain's position is very clear—Estonia is an independent country and its independence is not to be trampled on by anyone. Nobody but Estonia and the European organizations themselves have the right to veto European integration; according to Douglas Hurd, Europe does not intend to use this right of veto.

Hurd pointed out that Estonia already has a free trade agreement with the European Union, though concluding this was not the most obvious step. Hurd hoped that as early as this month the EU foreign ministers would, at their meeting, authorize the European Commission to begin talks with Estonia on behalf of all 12 states over concluding an agreement of association with the EU.

Speaking about relations on defense, Hurd said that Estonia had been quick to sign NATO's Partnership for Peace program. He described this as an important step toward concrete and serious cooperation between the Armed Forces of Estonia and NATO. Hurd said he believed that NATO would expand in the future. The schedule and other details can be spoken about only in preliminary terms as yet, because they have to be planned very carefully.

He said he did not believe in dividing European states into groups with different schedules for integration.

Hurd said that Britain would do all it could to rebuild the strong friendship that existed between our countries between the world wars. The trade between the two countries is small but it is growing fast. Estonia is currently selling more to Britain than Britain is selling to Estonia. Hurd said that the new British ambassador to Estonia would work to restore the traditional effectiveness of trading relations and political dialogue between Britain and Estonia.

Latvia

Saeima Fails To Pass Draft Law on 'Aliens'

WS2110151294 Tallinn BNS in English 1223 GMT 21 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Riga, Oct 20, BNS—The Latvian Saeima (parliament) decided Thursday against passing a draft law on the status of aliens and stateless persons, neither did it adopt a bill on the status of former Soviet citizens who are not subjects of any other country.

The first legislation was prepared by the Homeland and Freedom association, the other was proposed by the parliament Legal Committee. The National Bloc factions withdrew from voting after the parliament rejected Homeland and Freedom's bill. Consequently, the voting on the Legal Committee bill did not take place because of the lack of quorum.

The Legal Committee bill will be repeatedly considered during a plenary session next week. The project foresees to issue identity certificates to all former Soviet citizens who are not Latvian subjects and lived in Latvia before July 1, 1992. The certificates would be issued only to persons having permanent residence and personal code in Latvia, according to the project.

Under the draft law, identity certificates will not be issued to Russian military persons servicing the Skrunda radar station and their family members, and Russian servicemen discharged after May 4, 1990, and their family members.

The Homeland and Freedom bill required that all resident non- citizens ask stay permits at the Citizenship and Immigration Department. If they fail to do it in due time, rent and labor contracts with these persons may be suspended.

Latvia's Way Chairman Andrejs Pantelejevs criticized the Homeland and Freedom bill saying that it mixes up terms "alien" and "stateless person" as it calls former Soviet citizens aliens although the Soviet Union is a non-existent state. Consequently, these persons cannot be turned out of the country.

Tupesis Denies Human Rights Violations Claims

LD2010170394 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1606 GMT 20 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] On human rights, Latvia has been visited by experts from the United Nations, the European Union, and other institutions. All acknowledged that there are no large-scale violations of human rights, states Janis Tupesis, the minister of state for human rights. The statement was issued in connection with remarks by Olafs Bruvers, the former minister of state for human rights in an interview on 19 October. The interview, to the SM-SEGODNYA, related to specific illegal issues at the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, alleging that large-scale violations of human rights take place in Latvia. The minister emphasized that the unprofessionalism of officials at the Department of Citizenship and Immigration does not prove large-scale human rights violations. The 11 accusations made by Bruvers were circulated at government level, the statement says.

Lithuania

Opposition Favors Amending Russian Transit Rules

WS2010135694 Vilnius ELTA in English 1849 GMT 19 Oct 94

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[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius, October 19, ELTA—Seven political parties having their representatives in Seimas delivered a statement to President Brazauskas "On approved rules of military transit and treaty to be prepared with Russia" with a demand to make essential amendments to the Rules on Transportation of Dangerous and Military Cargoes via Lithuanian Territory approved by the Government a fortnight ago.

On the grounds of experts' opinion, the leaders of political parties proposed to make the following amendments:

(1) The article on flights of foreign military aircrafts in the Lithuanian airspace should be removed, in order that its air space—and, hence, the control of its territory—were not given to the Russian military disposition.

(2) Rules should be amended so that everything were regulated within the rules without references to bilateral agreement of the states, since such an agreement is not only unnecessary, but also harmful for Lithuania.

(3) Procedure of giving permissions to carry freights by railway should be changed in such a way that the state wishing to transport its military cargo via Lithuania should apply for permission to Lithuanian Government with a note of request and obligation each single time separately, and the permission of Lithuanian Government should be given by a return note.

We should be content with the amended Rules, said the statement. Agreement on military transit, independently on its contents, should violate independence of Lithuania from Russia and its security, it would depreciate international status of Lithuania and, in fact, it would mean military cooperation with Russia.

Hence, it would disagree with a constituent part of the Lithuanian Constitution—a constitutional act "On Non-Joining of Lithuanian Republic into Post-Soviet Eastern Unions"—and with an oath of officials to strengthen independence of Lithuania.

"We demand that any preparation of agreement with Russia on military transit were canceled", concludes the statement.

The statement is signed by leaders of Lithuanian Centre Union, parties of Democrats, Christian Democrats, Sociodemocrats, Unions of Political Prisoners and Deportees, Lithuanian Nationalists' and Lithuanian Conservatives.

Attempts To Block Agreement Denounced

WS2110123794 Tallinn BNS in English 1829 GMT 20 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius, Oct 20, BNS—Lithuanian Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius claimed the opposition's attempts to block the signing of a military transit agreement with Russia are "unhealthy reaction of certain opposition leaders."

Such behavior "reflects the general situation in the ranks of the opposition," Slezevicius told a news conference Thursday.

The premier said the government is prepared for a dialogue and compromise agreements on all issues related to military transit. But in his words, the opposition does not suggest any alternative to military transit, which "existed, exists and will continue to exist, and it impossible not to see that."

Slezevicius said the present government had no doubt from the very beginning of its work that transit must be carried through Lithuania according to a strictly established order. And the Cabinet will adhere to this position in the future, he said.

Asked whether there has been any reaction to the military transit rules established by Lithuania and a draft transit agreement submitted to the Russian side, the premier said "there is still no official information about Moscow's reaction."

Slezevicius said the G-24 ambassadors accredited to Lithuania are satisfied with Lithuania's military transit strategy.

The premier noted that nearly a year has passed since the signing of the Lithuanian-Russian agreement on the most favored nation trade status, but the accord is still ineffective. As reported, Russia says it will grant the most favored nation status to Lithuania only when a military transit agreement is signed.

Slezevicius said Lithuania seeks to prepare and to sign new agreements with Russia, but in his words, "Lithuania's efforts are realized with great difficulty."

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